

# **WEST ALABAMA REGIONAL COMMISSION**

## **COMPREHENSIVE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY**

**2002**

West Alabama Regional Commission  
4200 Highway 69 North, Suite 1  
Northport, Alabama 35473-3505  
(205) 333 2990 - (205) 333 2713-FAX

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# **CHAPTER ONE**

## **BACKGROUND**

The West Alabama area known as Planning and Development District II, is composed of seven counties. They are Bibb, Fayette, Greene, Hale, Lamar, Pickens and Tuscaloosa. This area's primary source of employment was agriculture until around 1950. At that time, the number of farms and the acreage in farmland started to decline drastically. In 1977 there were 3,324 farms in the District comprising 918,756 acres. In 1987 this number had fallen to 2,644 farms and 398,753 acres. By 1997, the numbers have fallen to 2,505 farms and 685,173 acres. This represents a 25% drop in the number of farms and corresponding 25% drop in the number of acres in farms. Table 19 shows that this trend is true in five of the seven counties in the District. In Lamar and Pickens Counties, the number of farms, total acreage, and average acres per farm increased.

The District experienced out migration of residents for several decades. During the decade of the 90's, that out migration was turned around and the District actually experienced an in migration of 3.9%. All counties in the District had positive in-migration rates except Pickens and Greene. Pickens actually experienced a slight increase in its total population while Greene continued to decline. The District's in-migration rate of 3.92% remains less than that of the State (5.15%) and the U. S. (6.12%).

The District's labor force continues to have a large percentage of workers with low educational levels. The percent of residents 25 years or older without a high school diploma in 2000 was 26.5%. This has improved from 36.5% in 1990. The percentage of residents without a high school education is two percent lower than the State's average and eleven percent lower than the national average.

Major employment groups in the District are government, manufacturing, education and health care. With the location of Mercedes in the early 1990's and the suppliers that located in the District, manufacturing employment has grown in spite of the loss of almost all garment industry jobs. With the announced expansion of Mercedes and its suppliers, the manufacturing employment will continue to grow for the next several years. The location of other auto plants in Alabama and Mississippi may add to the employment opportunities in that area.

Employment in mining continues to drop as the coal, methane and oil reserves in the District are considered too expensive to extract. The deep mines in Tuscaloosa and Fayette Counties are almost the only coal being extracted. The oil and methane gas have lost their importance due to the high cost of extraction.

The District has lost almost all its garment industry. Only small concerns scattered throughout the District remain. The buildings that once housed that industry, for the most part remain empty. Concerted efforts are underway to find replacement industries for those facilities.

The automotive industry came to be an important segment of the District's employment base in the 1990's when Mercedes located in Tuscaloosa County. The company originally announced an employment base of 1,500. With the increase in popularity of its vehicle, the company has increased its employment to over 2,000 and is currently has an expansion under construction that will increase employment by another 2,000. Mercedes' suppliers that located in the District, ZF, Johnson Controls, Beeker, Delphi, etc. are all undergoing expansion. In addition,

new suppliers are also locating the District. Additional opportunities are available for those companies to act as suppliers to the Nissan plant in Mississippi, the Honda plant in east Alabama, the Hyundai plant in central Alabama and the Toyota engine plant in north Alabama.

The District continues to have an abundance of natural resources that are attractive to several industrial groups. Coal, methane gas, oil, timber and water are available in varying quantities. Coal, gas and oil have lost employment over the past few years. The reserves in these minerals are available, however, the current prices the developers can get for their products are not encouraging any new developments. There continues to be an abundance of timber reserves, both hardwood and softwood. The rivers and creeks in the District are conducive to recreation and tourism. The Black Warrior and the Tombigbee Rivers provide water transportation for goods to be shipped into and out of the District as well as recreational activities. Other rivers and creeks provide recreational areas as well as sources of water for various water systems.

Over the past several decades several trends were established. Some of these trends have been reversed. However, the trends continue in some counties even though the District as a whole has reversed. Some of these trends are causes for the District's economic condition today. Some of the more important trends are:

1. An out-migration trend was established, but has reversed during the 90's. Greene and Pickens Counties continue to experience out-migration.
2. A large percentage of the District's residents are considered in the low income category. One of the factors used in ARC's "Distressed County" program is income. Bibb, Fayette, Pickens and Hale are all be classified as distressed in FY 2002. If Greene County were in the ARC region, it would be classified distressed also.
3. A large percentage of the homes in the District continue to be unsound. A shortage of sound housing continues in the District, especially for the low income residents.
4. A large number of the low skilled jobs that were filled by persons in the garment industry have disappeared and have not been replaced. Almost all garment industries in the District have closed.
5. Several municipalities need improvements/expansions to their sewer systems and several of the smaller municipalities continue to need sewer service. This lack of capacity continues to be a hindrance to industrial development.
6. Several central business districts are in a state of decay and need to be revitalized in order to be a viable element of the economy.
7. The District's population continues to have a low level of education. Several of the schools in the District are on the State School Board's warning list.

All these factors hinder developers when they try to attract new industries. Some counties have improved over the past several years, however, there are several areas improvement in order for the District to make any gains toward reaching the same levels of the State and Nation.

## **CHAPTER TWO**

### **WEST ALABAMA REGIONAL COMMISSION**

The forerunner of the present Commission was established in February, 1966 as the Tuscaloosa Area Council of Local Governments. The original Council was composed of elected officials from Tuscaloosa County and the Cities of Northport and Tuscaloosa. By early 1969, Pickens County, its municipalities and the Town of Moundville had joined the Council.

In September, 1969, the Alabama Legislature passed Act 1126, which provided for designation of state planning and development districts and authorized the governing bodies of counties and municipalities to establish regional planning and development commissions. By 1976, twelve regional commissions were operating in the State. These agencies provided professional planning and technical assistance to local decision makers. This was the first time most of these governments had had the use of these services.

After Act 1126 became effective and other counties and municipalities started joining the Council, the name was changed to West Alabama Planning and Development Council, Inc. to better indicate the area served. The name was changed again in April, 2002 to the West Alabama Regional Commission, Inc. All seven counties and 37 municipalities are now active members of the Commission.

The Commission's Board of Directors, and its make-up, the By Laws, Affirmative Action Program and Personnel Policies are located in appendices A, B, and C.

The basic purpose of the Commission remains that of coordinating activities and promoting cooperation among the various local governments represented on the Commission. The Commission promotes and assists in efforts to coordinate activities with local governments and their agencies such as school boards, water and sewer board/authorities, and industrial development boards/authorities.

In the beginning, the Commission was funded by local dues and planning grants from the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). Later the Appalachian Regional Commission (ARC) provided (and still does) planning funds for the five counties in the ARC area. Now, Hale County has been added to the ARC area. The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) provided funds for water quality plans in Tuscaloosa County for a short time. The Department of Transportation (DOT) provides Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and Federal Transit Administration (FTA) planning funds for the Tuscaloosa Urban Area. The Commission is designated as the planning organization for the Tuscaloosa Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO). An employment program for the elderly (Senior AIDES) is provided funding by the Department of Labor through the Commission on Senior Citizens. The Department of Human Services (through the Alabama Department of Senior Services) provides funding for the various programs administered by the Commission's aging department. Economic development activities have been funded by the Economic Development Administration (EDA) for approximately 15 years. Other funds have been provided to capitalize the Commission's Revolving Loan Program by EDA, the State of Alabama and USDA Rural Development. Member dues have been used to match all grants at the required rates.

A new program, the Delta Regional Authority (DRA) covers three of the Commission's seven counties. Greene, Hale and Pickens Counties are three of sixteen counties in Alabama included in the Delta region. The Commission was recently designated a Local Development District by the DRA. The Commission will work with these three counties, all designated as distressed by ARC and DRA, to develop programs and projects for the Delta program.

The Commission has several designations received by its association with and meeting the requirements of various programs. The various designations held by the Commission are:

1. Metropolitan Planning Organization
2. Economic Development District
3. Affiliate State Data Center
4. Area Agency on Aging
5. Local Development District (ARC) and (DRA)
6. Historic West Alabama Tourism Commission

For several years the Commission prepared plans for its members and acted as their planning department. Only the City of Tuscaloosa has had a planning department throughout the Commission's existence. Now the City of Northport and Tuscaloosa County have planning departments.

As HUD's requirements for plans to be in place in order to qualify for grants were cut and plans were required to meet low and moderate income requirements, local governments lost interest in having plans prepared. Now, the Commission's services are in a number different areas, including planning. Assistance in zoning, subdivision regulations, personnel policies, voting district plans, mapping of various services, such as water and sewer lines, police jurisdiction, etc. are provided by the Commission's staff. One of the most active activities currently is the preparation of grant/loan applications.

Activities that cannot be funded under the various programs administered by the Commission, or by member dues, have been completed on a contractual basis. These activities have included such things as printing, administering grants, conducting surveys, assisting in the development of brochures and promotion materials, and the preparation of special plans.

The Commission received its first funding in 1997 for a Revolving Loan Fund. That fund, initially \$500,000.00 (\$375, 000 EDA, \$121,000 State and \$4,000 WAPDC) has grown to more than \$2,500,000. Funding, other than interest paid and earned, came from a state bond issue (\$970,000) and IRP loans from USDA Rural Development (\$900,000). There have been 32 loans made for a total of \$2,646,304 loaned and 490 jobs created.

The Commission has been involved in economic development activities in the District by assisting the member governments and their agencies in applying for grants or loans to acquire and develop industrial parks/sites, to build or improve public infrastructure and to assist industries. Some examples of recent activities the Commission's staff have participated in are: application preparation and administration of infrastructure for the Brent State Prison and a catfish processing plant in Eutaw. Both these projects involved multiple applications for various parts of the activities. Industrial access roads in Northport, Berry and Aliceville were accomplished. Water and sewer were provided to an industry in Sulligent.

The Commission's Board of Directors is made up of 73 individuals from the seven counties. The Board of Directors is constructed to meet the EDA's requirements of EDD's.



Citizen members are chosen from those nominated by minority groups to ensure that the racial makeup of the Board reflects the makeup of the District. The District's CEDS committee is also made up of representatives of all seven counties and reflects the racial makeup of the District.

## CHAPTER THREE

### DISTRICT CEDS COMMITTEE

#### Committee Members

The District's committee is made up of representatives from the seven counties. The committee members represent all segments of the District's population. The membership of the District Committee is as follows:

MEMBER	COUNTY	REPRESENTS	RACE/SEX
Judy Suttle	Bibb	Secretary	White/Female
Bill McCollum	Fayette	Retired	Black/Male
Calvin Knott	Greene	Utility Employee	Black/Male
Norman Cephus	Hale	Retired Educator	Black/Male
Harold Suddith	Lamar	Retired Merchant	White/Male
Hazel Eubanks	Tuscaloosa	Retired Realtor	Black/Female
Rev. Wade Lewis	Tuscaloosa	Production Worker	Black/Male
Kenneth Hardy	Tuscaloosa	Utility Co. Employee	Black/Male
Addie Green	Tuscaloosa	Hospital Employee	Black/Female
Christine Coleman	Tuscaloosa	Housekeeper	Black/Female
Shelia Grant	Tuscaloosa	Social Worker	Black/Female
Maxie Thomas	Tuscaloosa	County Employee	Black/Male
Curtis Travis	Tuscaloosa	Educator	Black/Male

#### Purpose

The purpose of organizing the committee is to develop a plan of action to reverse the trend of low income, a high rate of unemployment, a great deal of underemployment and mass out-migration of the rural people. It is felt that by more efficient use of the District's total resources in providing employment, these trends could be reversed and make it possible for the people to continue residing in and retaining the communities as health and prosperous units of our society.

This report provides information based on the 2000 Census of Population, previous Censuses on Agriculture, Trades, etc., and other data as available to the Commission.

#### Functions

The functions of the District CEDS Committee include promoting, planning and executing programs and projects that will provide jobs, increase family incomes and improve social and economic conditions of the District. Specific functions include:

1. Inventorying and evaluating all resources
2. Studying and analyzing problems
3. preparing a program for comprehensive economic development
4. Executing the program as effectively and rapidly as possible
5. Developing specific project proposals consistent with the objectives of this program

6. Submitting request for technical assistance needed in program implementation to either local, state, federal or private agencies
7. Maintaining liaison with other planning and development organizations
8. Evaluating progress of the program and making necessary adjustments
9. Preparing and submitting annual Progress Reports and Plans of Action as required by EDA.

### **Legal Authority**

Legal authority of the District II CEDS Committee is limited to program development, coordination, promotion and supervision of the district's Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS). The counties, municipalities and organizations cooperating in the development program will perform those legal functions necessary to carry out the programs.

### **Reporting & Evaluation**

Reporting and evaluation will be a continuous process carried on by the committee. This group will meet formally and informally to evaluate progress, discuss new problems and developments, and make suggestions for program changes and new emphasis and to prepare and submit annual Progress Reports and Plan of Action to EDA. The committee will endeavor to keep the county committees, as well as the public, informed on progress of the economic development program.

### **Technical Assistance**

West Alabama Regional Commission is assigned responsibilities of assisting the CEDS committees in the District carry out their development programs. USDA agencies are also assigned similar responsibilities. The Extension Service has the responsibility of providing organizational and leadership in resource development. The USDA Rural Development, Soil Conservation Service, Forestry Service, Rural Electric Administration, Tennessee Valley Authority, Vocational Educational personnel and others have the responsibility of providing technical assistance in resource development.

### **Meetings**

The District II CEDS committee will meet at least annually, normally in the first calendar quarter, to review and discuss progress made in the development of the District's total resources during the past year, and to plan projects and programs of work for the new year. The committee may subdivide into sub-committees and meet during the year on special projects. The committees will meet at other times at the call of the chairman or members as the need arises to plan, initiate and implement work on specific projects.

### **Minority Representation**

Minority group representatives are included in the District II Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy Committee. They attend meetings and participate in program development. They are nominated by minority groups to serve on the committee.

## **CHAPTER FOUR**

### **DISTRICT II AND ITS ECONOMY**

#### **General Description of the District**

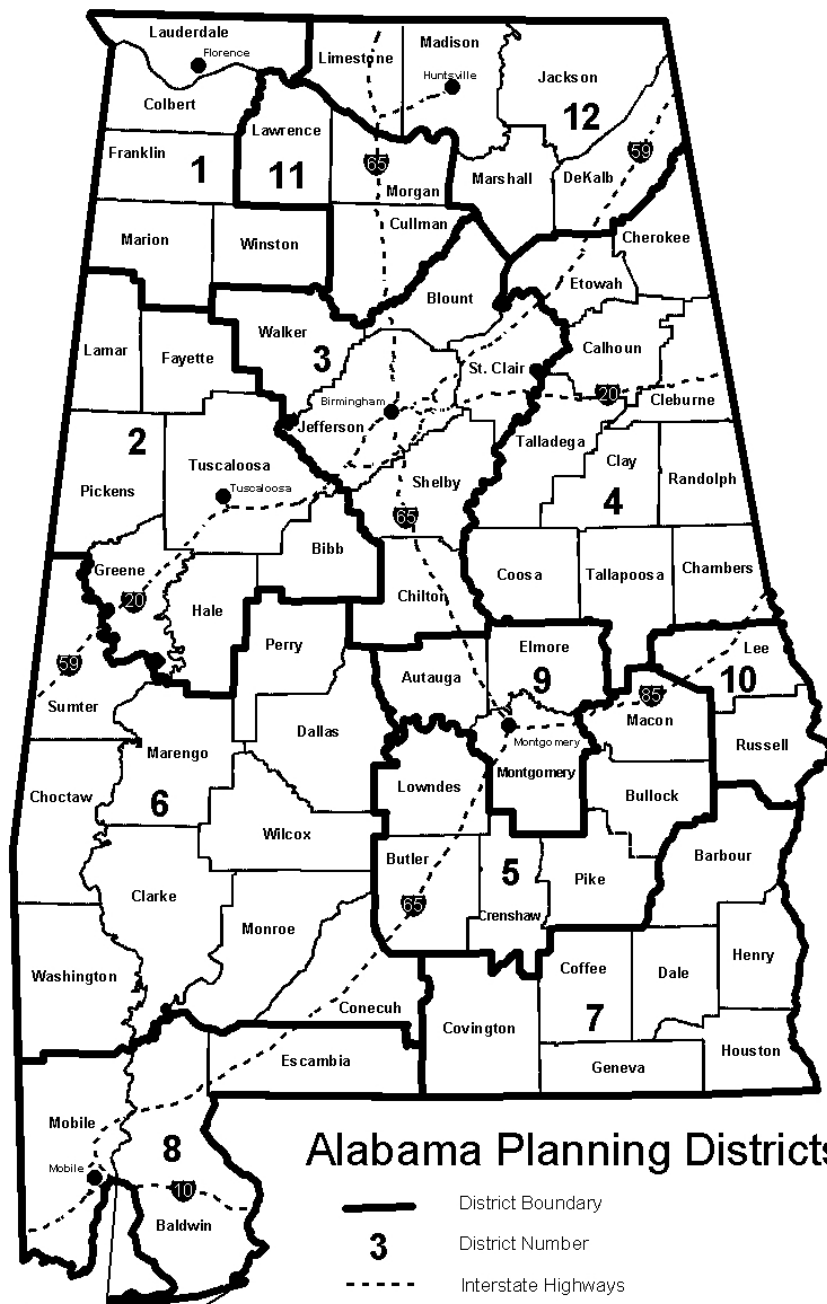
Planning and Development District II was created by an Act of the Alabama Legislature on September 13, 1969. The area drew its first settler from the Carolinas and at one time served as hunting grounds for the Creek, Choctaw and Cherokee Indians.

The counties of Hale, Lamar and Tuscaloosa are governed by a Probate Judge, who serves as the Chairman of the County Commission and County Commissioners, who are elected by the citizens of their respective county commission districts. The other four counties in West Alabama are governed by County Commissioners, elected by the citizens in their commission districts. In Greene County, the Commission elects a chairman who serves for their term of office. In Bibb, Fayette and Pickens Counties, the chairmanship rotates on a regular basis so that all commissioners will serve a term as chairman. The incorporated towns and cities in the District have their own municipal governments composed of mayors and councilmen. Consequently, residents of these towns and cities have an opportunity to receive more public services than the scattered, sparsely populated rural neighborhoods. Traditionally, the Probate Judge and the County Commissioners have been the primary spokesmen for rural residents living outside the municipalities.

The map on page 9 shows Planning and Development District II in relation to the rest of the State. The location of all major urban centers in the State are shown as well as counties and Interstate Highways. The other planning districts are shown also.

The map on page 12 shows several features of the District. The District's eight airports are shown. Pickens County is the only county in the District that is served by two airports. No airport in the District is served by commercial service. A movement headed by the West Alabama Chamber of Commerce is underway to have the Tuscaloosa Airport become a cargo terminal.

Railroads are shown by the traditional symbol. Rail closings over the past several years have greatly reduced the amount of rail service. There are only four companies serving the District at the present time. Bibb and Fayette County only have a small portion of those counties served by rail. A line dead ends at Belk in Fayette County and a line runs through the extreme northern corner of Bibb County. Lamar County is served by two lines, one runs across the northern section of the county through Beaverton and Sulligent and the other across the southern section of the county through Kennedy and Millport. Hale County is served by one line that runs north-south through the Town of Moundville. Greene, Pickens and Tuscaloosa Counties are all served by two lines. There are no plans at this time to abandon any more lines or to replace any of the abandoned lines.



**Table 1**  
POPULATION DENSITY AND URBAN/RURAL RESIDENCY  
2002

GOVERNMENT	TOTAL POPULATION	LAND AREA SQ. MILES	POPULATION PER SQ. MILE	RESIDENTS	
				% URBAN	% RURAL
United States	281,421,906	3,548,974	79.30	75.20	24.80
Alabama	4,447,100	51,060	87.10	55.40	44.56
Region II	268,208	5,384	49.80	47.30	52.70
Counties					
Bibb	20,826	625	33.32	18.20	81.80
Fayette	18,495	630	29.36	21.60	78.40
Greene	9,974	631	15.81	0.00	100.00
Hale	11,185	661	26.00	15.20	84.80
Lamar	15,904	605	26.29	0.00	100.00
Pickens	20,949	890	26.54	0.00	100.00
Tuscaloosa	164,875	1,336	123.41	70.70	29.30

Source: U. S. Census 2000

There are four inland ports on the Tombigbee Waterway, with one of them being private. All four ports are small and do not have a great deal of activity. The Bevill-Hook Port, south of Aliceville in Pickens County, is probably the most active. It serves two tenants that ship bark and chips. The port at Pickensville has a rail spur, grain elevators and a barge slip with equipment to load/off-load trucks, barges and rail cars. The Crossroads of America Industrial Park's port has utilities and access by rail and highway. There is no activity at this port. The private facility only serves one company, the owner. All facilities may be available for use in the future if the need develops.

Along the Black Warrior River, there are several facilities available for shipping. The State Docks Facility in the City of Northport, Tuscaloosa County, is the only public facility.

The District has a good network of highways, mixed with State, Federal and County routes. Interstate 20/59 serves the District crosses through Greene and Tuscaloosa Counties. Major U. S. Highways serving the District include 11, 43, 82 and 278.

The county seats of the seven counties generally serve as the center of local trade in the county with Lamar and Pickens Counties being the exceptions. In Lamar County, Sulligent has a slightly larger share of the local trade and in Pickens County, Aliceville ranks first followed by Reform and Gordo. The county seats are: Bibb County - Centreville; Fayette County - Fayette; Greene County - Eutaw; Hale County - Greensboro; Lamar County - Vernon; Pickens County - Carrollton; and, Tuscaloosa County - Tuscaloosa.

District II has an area of 5,401 square miles or 3,456,870 acres. The 2000 population of the District is 268,208 or 49.7 persons per square mile. This compares to 79.3 for the U. S. and 87.2 for Alabama. For comparisons of the counties in the District, refer to Table 1.

District II's economy has largely been dependent upon agriculture and forestry. In recent years, manufacturing plants have located in the District and provide employment for a number of residents. Cotton, soybeans, hogs, dairying, beef cattle, poultry and forestry are the main sources of agricultural income in the District. Catfish farming is a major source in Hale and Greene Counties and is becoming a factor in other counties within the District. Crawfish were introduced in the area in the mid 90's and are becoming a factor in Greene and Hale Counties.

### **Climate**

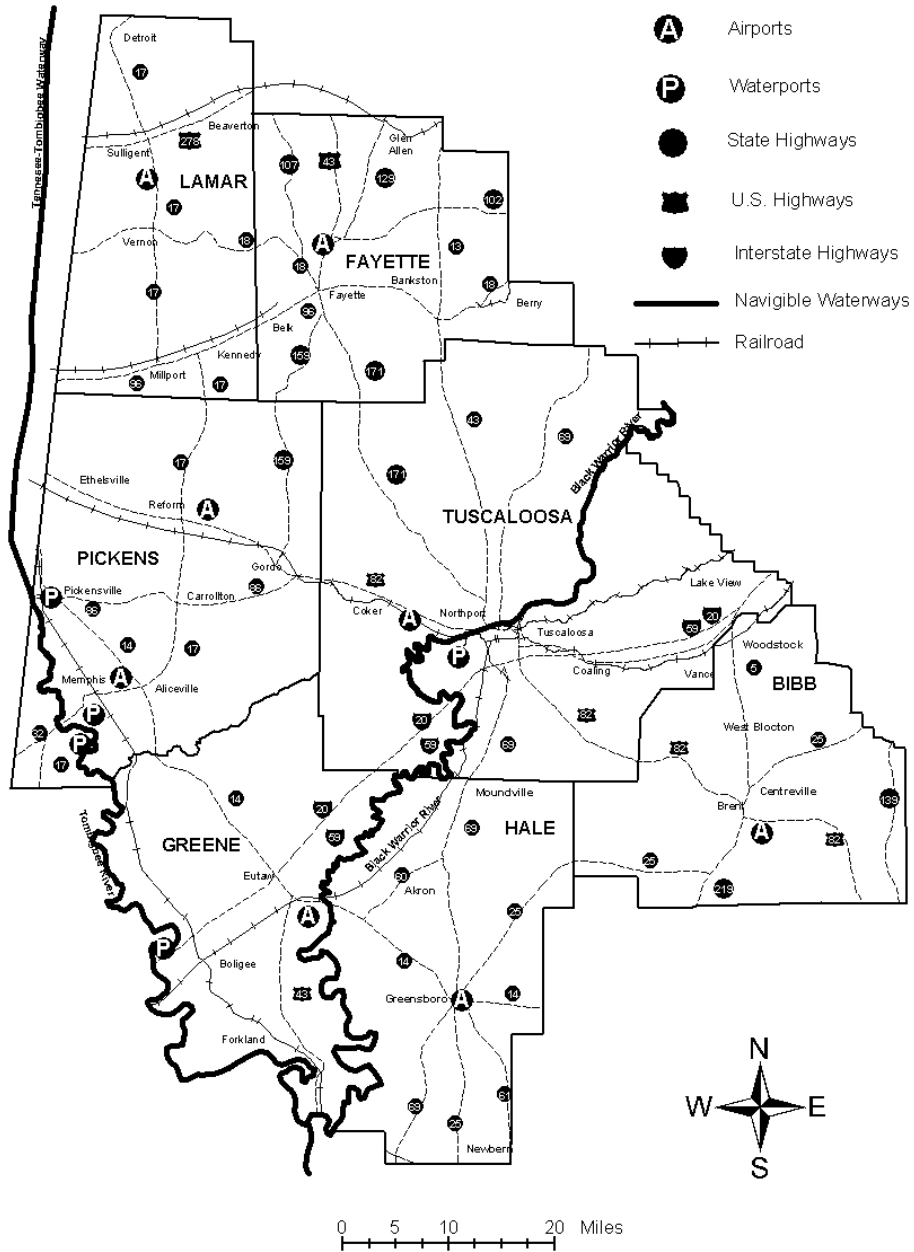
The District has a humid subtropical climate. Summers are warm to hot and humid. Winters are relatively mild and humid. Rainfall is abundant and generally well distributed throughout the year. Usually, the period from December to March received the most rainfall, and, when flooding does occur, it is normally during this season.

Autumn months are usually the dries, and combined with hunting season, is the time of most forest fires. Measurable snowfall occurs only about every two years.

Tornadoes are often a serious problem in the District. They occur most frequently during the months of February, March and April. These storms have cause loss of life and enormous damage to homes, businesses, crops and forest in the District. The tornadoes do not always come during the three month period described above. This is portrayed most vividly by the December 16, 2000 storm that hit Tuscaloosa County killing seven persons and destroying millions of dollars in homes, businesses and timber.

The average annual temperature is about 62 degrees, ranging from a 47 degree average in January to a July average of about 81 degrees. The frost-free period or growing season averages approximately 220 days.

# WEST ALABAMA REGIONAL COMMISSION TRANSPORTATION SYSTEM





## **Topography**

The topography of the district varies from low, flood prone areas, to areas with steep and rugged slopes. The Counties of Bibb, Fayette, Hale, Lamar, Pickens and Tuscaloosa are considered to be in the Appalachian Region and contain the highest elevations. Southern Tuscaloosa County, Pickens County, Greene County and Hale County contain the greatest amount of flood-prone areas in the District. These areas are primarily along the Black Warrior, Sipsey and Tombigbee Rivers. Elevations range from about 100 feet above sea level to 700 feet above sea level.

The flood prone areas and generalized areas that contain steep slopes are shown on the soil map. Development in the flood prone areas should be limited to that which can withstand flood damage; such as certain types of agriculture, recreation, or structures with habitable space above the 100 year flood level and water and waste disposal systems not impaired or contaminated by flooding.

## **Geology**

Geologic history of the West Alabama District indicates that six hundred million years ago, early in the Cambrian period, the District was under a broad, shallow sea bordered by a barren, mountainous land mass to the west. Sediment from the land and invertebrate life from the seas settled on the sea floor and great thicknesses of dolomite and limestone occurred. About one hundred million years later beds of iron ore were deposited. Geologic formations containing the dolomite and iron ore are located in the southeastern part of Tuscaloosa County and central Bibb County.

During the Mississippian period, the Appalachian Revolution occurred. Compressive forces pushing from the southeastern United States created a large mountain range centered in eastern Alabama. Forces within these mountains created molten rock which provided fuel for continual volcanic eruptions spewing ash and cinders into regressing seas. The mountains grew until, by Pennsylvanian time, they covered the entire eastern coast of the United States and were as majestic as the modern Alps.

As these mountains weathered sediments were carried by streams to the seas in the West Alabama District. Deposits filled the sea, then a sagging earth's crust allowed it to return, only to be filled again. The shoreline of the sea was flanked by swamps with lush vegetation and insects. Plants and animals died, their bodies submerged by the swamps and finally converted into coal. The geologic formations of the eastern part of Fayette County, Tuscaloosa County and Bibb County are from the Pennsylvanian period.

The seas covered the land again, regressed, and returned again during the Cretaceous and Tertiary times and finally settled into its present position in the Gulf of Mexico. The largest part of the district, which is the Coastal Plains Province, contains geologic formations of the upper Cretaceous period. (Atlas of Alabama, Neal Lineback, University of Alabama Press, 1973, pp 2-4)

Ground water, which is abundant within the West Alabama District, is primarily dependent on geologic formations. There are eight formations in the District. They are:

1. Limestone, Dolomite, Sandstone and Shale. Yields vary in these formations but are generally less than 25 gallons per minute. Large quantities are obtainable, but test drilling may be necessary. Water is generally of good quality, but is hard in limestone areas.
2. Pottsville Formation. This formation underlies the northeastern part of the District and ranges from 1,550 feet to 3,500 feet in thickness. At depths of less than 250 feet, water yields an average of about ten gallons per minute and in sections it is possible to obtain yields up to 100 gallons per minute. Generally, little if any, additional water is obtained below a depth of 250 feet. Pottsville water ranges from soft to very hard, contains dissolved solids greater than 100 mg/l, has less than 40 mg/l of chloride, and locally has an iron content in excess of 0.3 mg/l.
3. Coker Formation. This formation is found throughout the District. The maximum thickness is approximately 1,900 feet in the southern part of the District. Generally wells 200 to 250 feet deep yield 100 gallons per minute. Ground water from the Coker formation contains less than 100 mg/l of dissolved solids, less than 40 mg/l of chloride and locally has an iron content in excess of 0.3 mg/l. The water is generally soft.
4. Gordo Formation. The Gordo Formation rests unconformably on the Coker Formation. The maximum thickness of the formation is about 1,800 feet, occurring in the southern part of the District. Domestic wells in the Gordo Formation yield water which has basically the same characteristics as water from the Coker Formation.
5. McShan Formation. The McShan Formation which overlays the Gordo Formation has a maximum thickness of about 250 feet. The major aquifer in the McShan Formation generally produces water from wells 70 to 200 feet deep. Water from this formation, in some sections, contains high levels of iron and chloride.
6. Eutaw Formation. The maximum thickness of this formation is about 400 feet and generally yields wells at 100 gallons per minute from depths of 50 to 200 feet. Although the amount of water available from the Eutaw Formation is small compared to that from underlying formations (i.e. McShan, Gordo and Coker in descending order), the Eutaw is an important water bearing unit because it is the shallowest source of ground water in the southern part of the District.
7. Mooreville and Demopolis Chalks. This formation overlays the Eutaw. These chalks are generally impermeable and do not usually yield water to wells. They have a significant influence on ground water conditions, because they confine water in underlying aquifers and retard downward percolation of water from overlying aquifers.
8. Alluvial and Terrace Deposits. These deposits are as much as 70 feet thick and yield water at well depths between 0 and 50 feet. Aquifers generally yield sufficient water for domestic and stock use. The water is of good chemical quality except locally where the iron content is high.

## **Soils**

General soil characteristics and soil suitability for different types of development are important considerations in land use planning. The suitability of soils for certain type of agriculture is apparent, but often overlooked are soil suitability's for urban development,

highways, and septic tanks. The oversight can cost governments and property owners large sums of money from cracking streets and foundations, eroding or sliding banks, overflowing septic tank drainage fields, infertile lawns, soggy, poorly drained home sites and similar problems.

The U. S. Natural Resources Conservation Service has grouped the different soils associations of the District into seven general soil groups.

1. Flood prone soils.
2. Soils on steep hillsides underlain by unconsolidated sands, silt, and clay
3. Soils on steep hillsides underlain by sandstone and shale
4. Prairie soils
5. Soils underlain by limestone
6. Rolling coastal plains uplands
7. Level and gently sloping coastal plains

The characteristics of these soils groups are shown on Table 2.

To determine whether soils in a particular location are suitable for septic tanks, the Natural Resources Conservation Service office in the local county should be contacted. This information is generalized and based on interpretations by the Natural Resources Conservation Service. Characteristics such as drainage, permeability, shrink-swell potential, percolation rate, elevation, topography and load bearing were considered.

The West Alabama District Health Office requires the Natural Resources Conservation Service to test areas to be developed for residences before they will approve an area for septic tanks. There might be small areas within these general areas that would be approved. Generally, however, there are few large areas in the District that are well suited for septic tanks.

Prime agricultural areas are also usually prime areas for urban development. The Tuscaloosa Urban Area is located mostly in an area well suited for urban development. It is interesting to note that most early development in the District, both of roads and settlements, was located in areas shown on the map as fair or good for urban development.

### **Mineral Resources**

Mineral reserves can be exhausted and are not renewable. The use of the land for surface extraction is not a permanent state because the land can be restored to productive use for agriculture, forests, recreation, or building sites. In some cases, reclaimed strip mine areas are more productive than they were originally because the terrain is more level.

Many of these resources are not being extracted presently, and their real potential is not known. For example, the natural gas and oil in Fayette, Lamar and Pickens Counties is being explored, but so far, not enough gas is being extracted to solve the energy problems of industries that might come into the region. Many of the wells are drilled and capped until the prices are higher, providing a better profit margin. The wells were drilled to take advantage of the tax breaks available at the time.

The natural gas and oil deposits in Fayette, Lamar and Pickens Counties as well as the methane gas in Bibb, Hale and Tuscaloosa Counties are not shown on the map. During the 90's

many methane wells and transmission lines were developed in Tuscaloosa County, northern Hale County and the northwestern edge of Bibb County. These wells are not capped and most are in production.

The iron ore deposits in the district are not being mined because of the economical availability of imported iron ore for Birmingham's steel mills.

TABLE 2				
General Soil Characteristics				
West Alabama				
SOIL GROUP	LOCATION	TEXTURE	SLOPE	DRAINAGE
Flood prone soils	Low stream terraces and first bottoms	Medium and fine	0-22%	Well to poorly ( Subject to flooding )
Soils on steep hillsides underlain by unconsolidated sand, silts and clays	Steep coastal plains uplands	coarse to fine	15-45%	Excessively to moderately well
Soils on steep hillsides underlain by sand stone and shale	Narrow ridgetops and steep hillsides	Medium to fine	15-50%	Well drained
Prairie soils	Prairie	Fine	15-30%	Well to somewhat poorly
Soils underlain by limestone	Cherry limestone ridges and valleys and coastal plains	Medium to fine	5-20%	Well drained
Rolling coastal plains uplands	Rolling coastal plains uplands	Medium to fine	6-15%	Well to moderately well
Level and gently sloping coastal plains	Gently sloping coastal plains uplands	Medium to fine	0-10%	Well to moderately well
SOURCE: NATURAL RESOURCE CONSERVATION SERVICE				

The actual amount of coal in the District is not known. It is believed that the mineral covers the entire District, but is at such a great depth in some areas that it is presently not economically feasible to mine. Coal has been discovered during test oil and gas well borings in Lamar County. There are presently deep shaft coal mines in operation in Fayette and Tuscaloosa Counties. These are in addition to the areas being surface mined. The Alabama Geological Survey Office estimated that the deep mines would last until around 2015.

There are many sand and gravel quarries in the District. Dolomite is being mined in Bibb County. Limestone is mined in various locations for use in the production of cement.

### **Analysis of the Population and Labor Force**

#### **1. Population Characteristics**

The population of West Alabama grew steadily from 1900 to 1940. However, after 1940 the rate of growth decreased until the district experienced a loss in population from 1960 to 1970. The trend was reversed in the seventies and the district has experienced growth during the past three decades. During the 1990's, all counties experienced gains except Greene County. Greene County lost population over the past two decades.

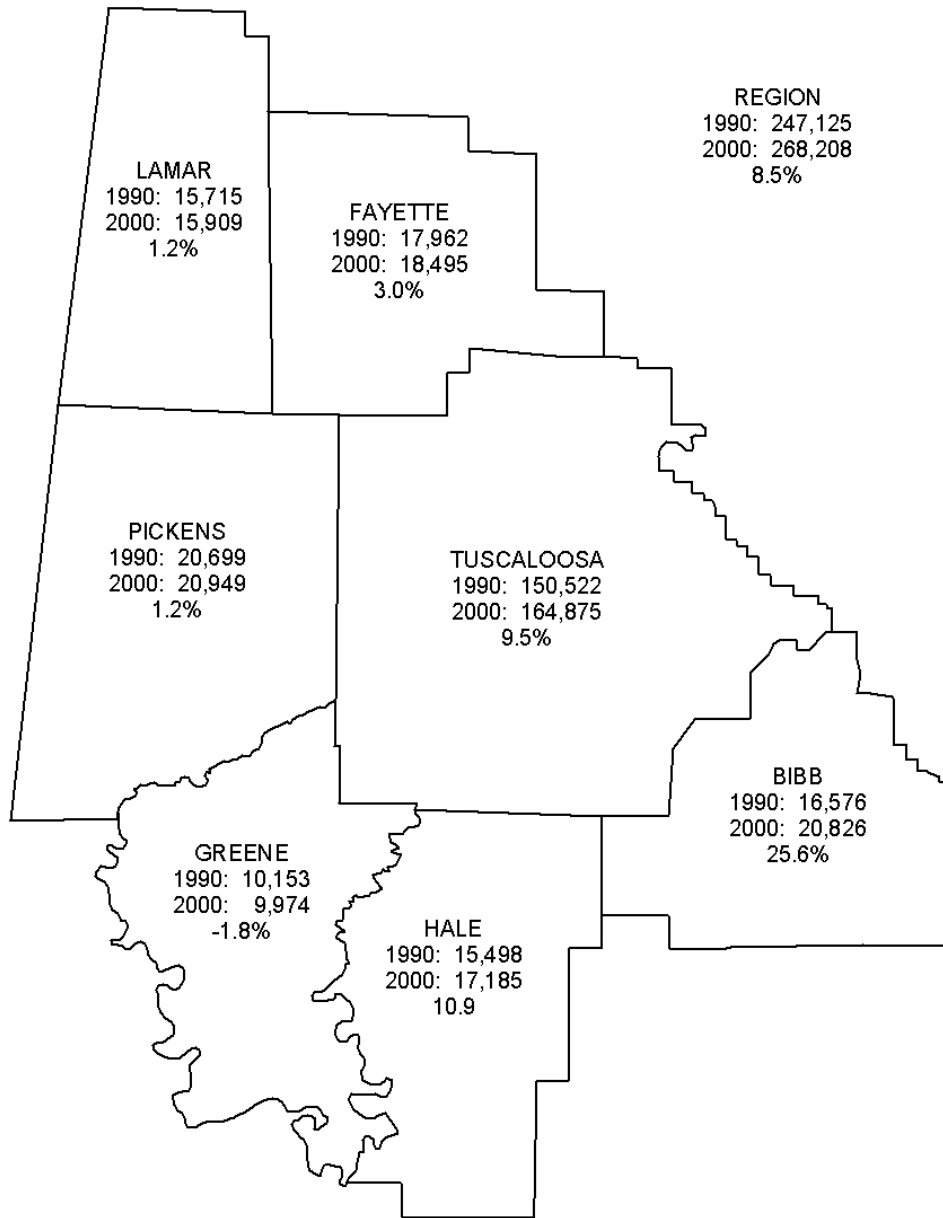
Table 3, on page 19 Shows the comparison of population changes for counties in the District, the State and the U.S. During the decade of the fifties, Tuscaloosa County was the only growth county. In the sixties, Fayette, Lamar and Tuscaloosa Counties experienced growth. During the seventies, all counties except Hale experienced growth. In the 1980's, only Bibb and Tuscaloosa Counties grew. All counties except Greene grew during the last decade. The map on page 20 Shows the population change by county.

#### **A. Population distribution by Age Groups**

During the 50s and 60, almost all age groups below 45 years of age lost population. Those losses were large enough that the Region lost population during those years. The loss of population was turned around during the 70s and the Region has gained population in each Census from 1980-2000.

TABLE 3							
POPULATION GROWTH							
LOCATION	POPULATION			ANNUAL AVERAGE % CHANGE		ANNUAL RATE OF GROWTH	
	1980	1990	2000	1980-90	1990-00	1980-90	1990-00
U. S. (000)	226,546	249,023	281,422	1	1.3	2,248	3,242
State (000)	3,894	4,041	4,447	0.4	1	15	41
Region II	236,564	247,125	268,208	0.4	0.9	1,065	2,108
Counties:							
Bibb	15,723	16,576	20,826	0.5	2.6	85	425
Fayette	18,809	17,962	18,495	-0.5	0.3	-85	53
Greene	11,021	10,153	9,974	-0.8	-0.2	-87	-18
Hale	15,604	15,498	17,185	-0.1	1.1	-11	169
Lamar	16,453	15,715	15,904	-0.4	0.1	-74	19
Pickens	21,481	20,699	20,949	-0.4	0.1	-78	25
Tuscaloosa	137,473	150,522	164,875	1	1	1,341	1,435
SOURCE: U. S. CENSUS							

WEST ALABAMA REGIONAL COMMISSION  
TOTAL POPULATION & PERCENT CHANGE  
1990 AND 2000



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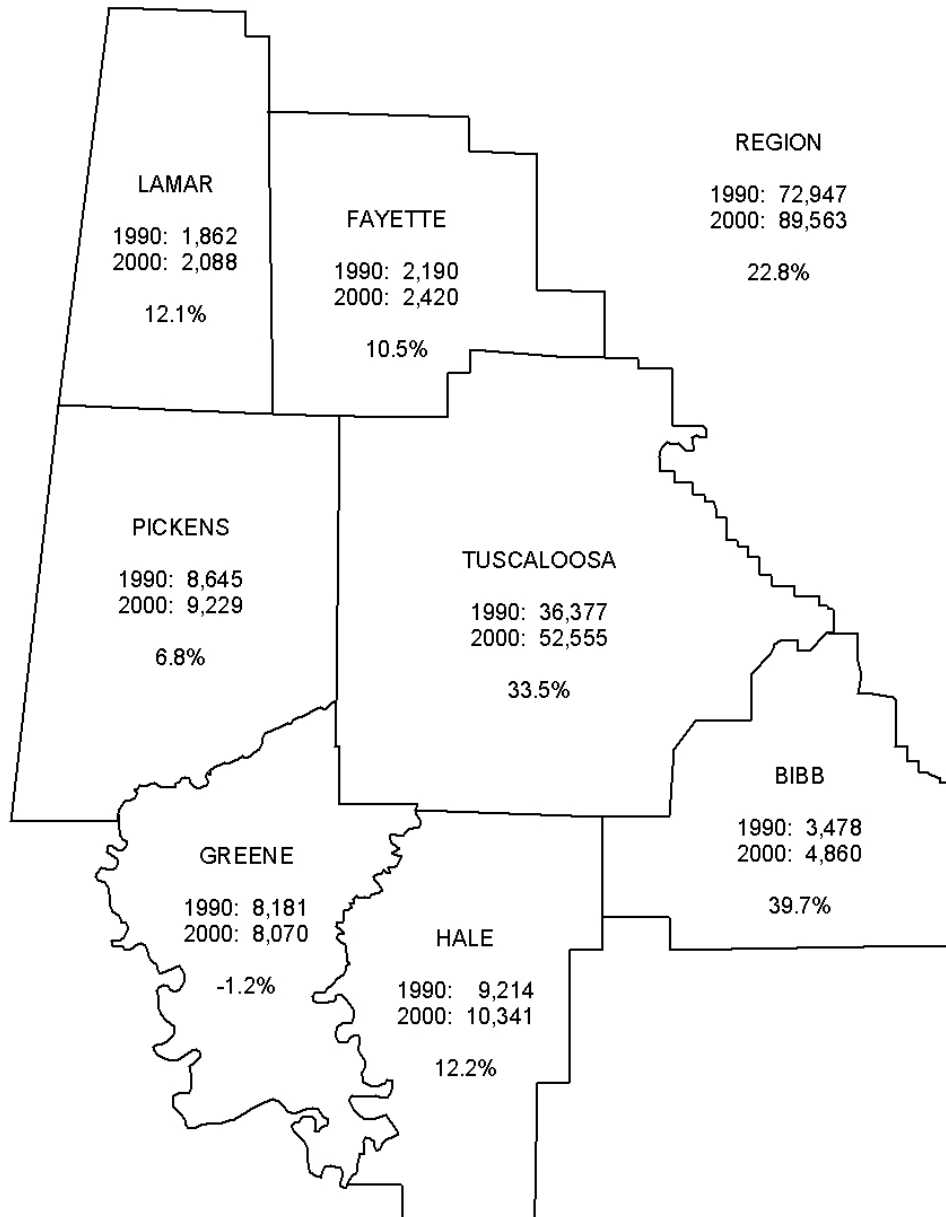
TABLE 4							
POPULATION DISTRIBUTION BY AGE GROUPS - PERCENT CHANGE 1970 - 2000 - REGION II							
	POPULATION				PERCENT CHANGE		
	1970	1980	1990	2000	1970-80	1980-90	1990-00
ALL AGES	207,292	236,632	247,125	268,208	14.2	4.4	8.5
0 - 4 YRS	19,133	17,845	16,399	17,679	-6.7	-8.1	7.8
5 - 9 YRS	21,376	18,876	17,384	18,370	-11.7	-7.9	5.7
10 - 14 YRS	22,380	19,289	18,339	18,395	-13.8	-4.9	0.3
15 - 19 YRS	18,827	24,861	22,371	22,387	32.0	-10.0	0.1
20 - 24 YRS	11,946	25,876	24,214	25,257	116.6	-6.4	4.3
25-34 YRS	21,305	34,798	37,322	36,109	63.3	7.3	-3.3
35 - 44 YRS	22,517	24,062	33,909	38,396	6.9	40.9	13.2
45 - 54 YRS	20,906	23,140	23,627	34,976	10.7	2.1	48.0
55 - 59 YRS	9,767	10,458	10,657	12,442	7.1	1.9	16.7
60 - 64 YRS	8,229	9,588	10,868	10,636	16.5	13.4	-2.1
65 - 74 YRS	12,337	17,189	17,655	18,399	39.3	2.7	4.2
75 - 84 YRS	1,810	8,246	11,016	10,956	355.6	33.6	-0.5
85 + YRS		2,404	3,364	4,206	0.0	39.9	25.0
SOURCE: U. S. CENSUS							

TABLE 5							
MINORITY POPULATION 1990 - 2000							
LOCATION	1990				2000		
	TOTAL	MINORITY	PERCENT		TOTAL	MINORITY	PERCENT
U.S. (000)	246,191	39,208	15.93%		281,421	69,961	24.86%
State	4,040,587	1,064,790	26.35%		4,447,100	1,284,292	28.88%
Region II	247,125	74,930	30.32%		268,208	89,563	33.39%
Counties:							
Bibb	16,576	3,524	21.26%		20,826	4,860	23.34%
Fayette	17,962	2,245	12.50%		18,495	2,420	13.08%
Greene	10,153	8,187	80.64%		9,974	8,070	80.91%
Hale	15,498	9,243	59.64%		17,185	10,341	60.17%
Lamar	15,715	1,910	12.15%		15,904	2,088	13.13%
Pickens	20,699	8,697	42.02%		20,949	9,229	44.05%
Tuscaloosa	150,552	41,124	27.32%		164,875	52,555	31.88%
The map on the following page shows the minority population							
of the Region's counties and the percentage change from 1990 to 2000							
SOURCE: U. S. CENSUS							

#### B. Natural Population Increase and Migration

The reduction of the number of people under age 45 from the 40's to the 60's was a result of people in that age group moving out of the area to find employment and the reduction in family size. During the 60's, the out-migration trend was reversed and a slight in-migration was realized. During the 70's, the in-migration rate increased to 6.7%. The rate decreased during the 80's and a decrease of 1.2% was experienced. From 1990 to 2000, the District again realized a positive in-migration rate. That rate was 3.9%. With the influx of the automotive industry, which is still in an expansion mode, the District is expected to experience continued in-migration. Tables 6 and 7 show the migration rates for each of the District's seven counties as well as the District, State and Nation.

WEST ALABAMA REGIONAL COMMISSION  
MINORITY POPULATION & PERCENT CHANGE  
1990 AND 2000



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TABLE 6								
COMPONENTS OF POPULATION CHANGE - NATURAL INCREASE AND MIGRATION, 1980 - 1990								
LOCATION	TOTAL POPULATION		TOTAL CHANGE		NATURAL INCREASE		MIGRATION	
	1980	1990	AMOUNT	PERCENT	AMOUNT	PERCENT	AMOUNT	PERCENT
U.S. (000)	226,546	249,023	22,477	9.92%	16,875	7.45%	5,602	2.47%
Alabama	3,893,888	4,040,587	146,699	3.77%	215,303	5.53%	-68,604	-1.76%
Region	236,632	247,125	10,493	4.43%	13,239	5.59%	-2,746	-1.16%
Counties:								
Bibb	15,723	16,576	853	5.43%	775	4.93%	78	0.50%
Fayette	18,809	17,962	-847	-4.50%	481	2.56%	-1,328	-7.06%
Greene	11,021	10,152	-869	-7.88%	724	6.57%	-1,593	-14.45%
Hale	15,604	15,498	-106	-0.68%	942	6.04%	-1,048	-6.72%
Lamar	16,453	15,715	-738	-4.49%	375	2.28%	-1,113	-6.76%
Pickens	21,481	20,699	-782	-3.64%	1,101	5.13%	-1,883	-8.77%
Tuscaloosa	137,541	150,522	12,981	9.44%	8,841	6.43%	4,140	3.01%

TABLE 7								
COMPONENTS OF POPULATION CHANGE - NATURAL INCREASE AND MIGRATION, 1990 - 2000								
LOCATION	TOTAL POPULATION		TOTAL CHANGE		NATURAL INCREASE		MIGRATION	
	1990	2000	AMOUNT	PERCENT	AMOUNT	PERCENT	AMOUNT	PERCENT
U.S. (000)	249,023	281,421	32,398	13.01%	17,148	6.89%	15,250	6.12%
Alabama	4,040,587	4,447,100	406,513	10.06%	198,193	4.91%	208,320	5.16%
Region	247,125	268,208	21,083	8.53%	11,398	4.61%	9,685	3.92%
Counties:								
Bibb	16,576	20,826	4,250	25.64%	832	5.02%	3,418	20.62%
Fayette	17,962	18,495	533	2.97%	8	0.04%	525	2.92%
Greene	10,152	9,974	-178	-1.75%	495	4.88%	-673	-6.63%
Hale	15,498	17,185	1,687	10.89%	690	4.45%	997	6.43%
Lamar	15,715	15,904	189	1.20%	19	0.12%	170	1.08%
Pickens	20,699	20,949	250	1.21%	569	2.75%	-319	-1.54%
Tuscaloosa	150,522	164,875	14,353	9.54%	8,785	5.84%	5,568	3.70%

## Rural – Urban Distinction

The percentage of people living in the urban areas of the District has remained almost constant during the past 20 years. The percent living in the urban areas in the 1990 Census was 48. In the 2000 Census, that percentage fell slightly to 47.3 even though the number of people increased. This decrease in percentage is a continuation of the trend started in the 80's. As the demand for more open space living increases, this trend will probably continue in the foreseeable future.

### D. Population Projections

Population changes occur because of births, deaths and migration. Based on a stable birth rate, the expected increase in the life span and the continued industrial growth due to the expanding automobile industry, the District is expected to continue to grow in population. The Center for Business and Economic Development at the University of Alabama has projected the population for all the counties of the District to the year 2025. This is a conservative rate of only 0.6% per year.

The projected population by age groups and race can be found on Table 8. This table shows each county and a composite of the District.

## Education of Population

The educational attainment level of the population is important from an economic as well as a social aspect, in that the educational level of the people is directly related to skills, productivity and flexibility of the labor force. All these variables are important in attracting new and expanding industry and business to the District.

The District's educational attainment level is higher than all counties in the District with the exception of Tuscaloosa County. Tuscaloosa County's population has reached a high school educational level of 78.8% compared to the next higher county in the District, Pickens, which has a rate of 69.7%. The District's rate of 73.5% rates 1.8% lower than the State's rate of 75.3%. The District has closed the gap between the State's rate by 1.6% during the past decade. Both the District and the State still lag the National rate of 84.1%.

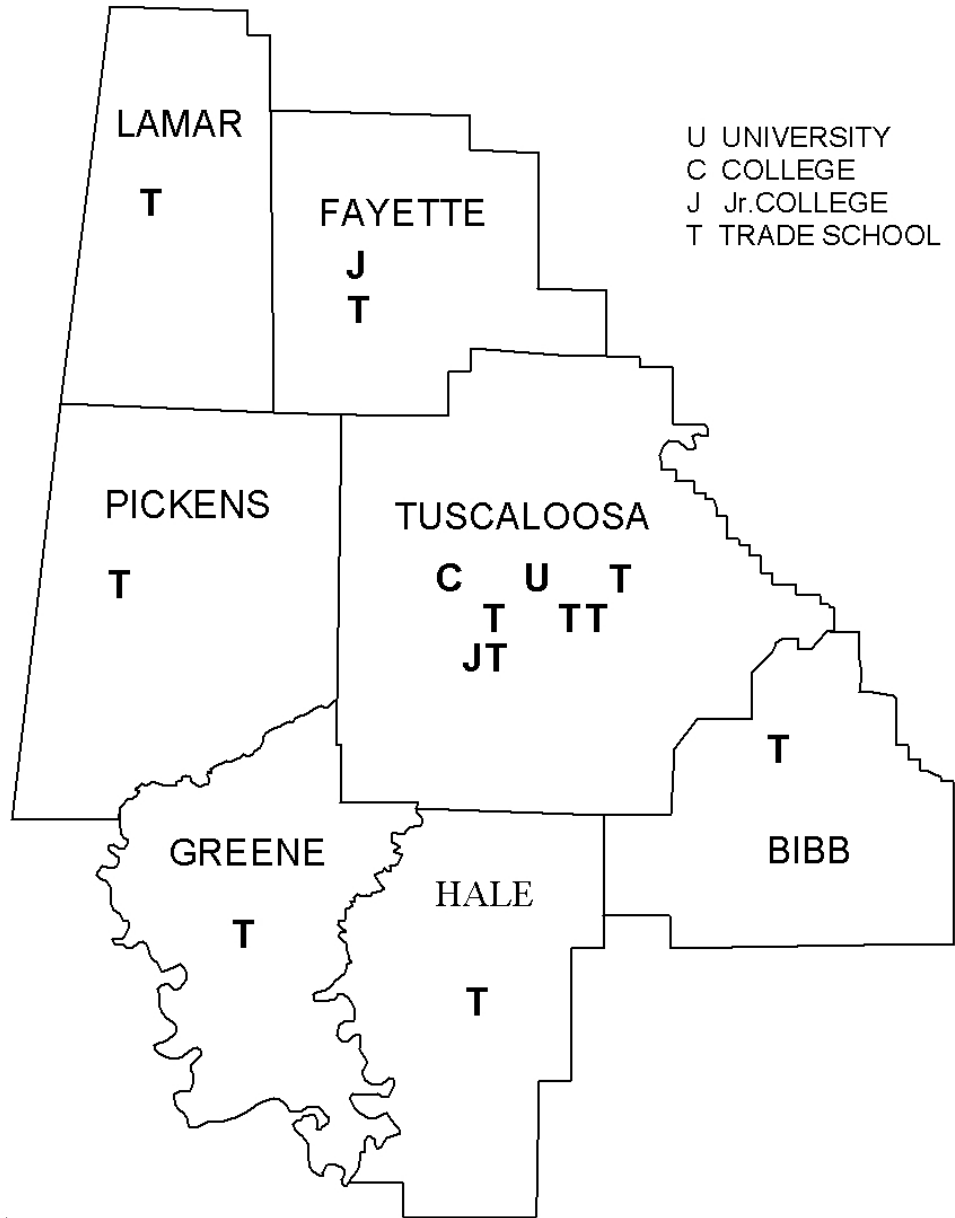
Table 9 shows the rates for high school and bachelor degree by county, District, State and National. The map on page 29, shows the location of institutions of higher learning.

TABLE 8										
PROJECTED COMPOSITION OF THE POPULATION, 2025										
	Bibb County			Fayette County			Greene County			
Age	Total	White	Nonwhite	Total	White	Nonwhite	Total	White	Nonwhite	
0-4	1,866	1,449	417	1,010	440	179	604	88	516	
5-19	5,774	4,395	1,379	3,278	1,438	550	1,851	256	1,595	
15-44	11,285	8,165	3,120	6,507	2,888	1,030	2,986	544	2,442	
20-64	17,725	12,556	5,169	10,051	4,385	1,522	4,623	908	3,715	
55+	9,619	7,238	2,381	6,955	2,752	925	3,526	777	2,749	
60+	7,475	5,691	1,784	5,759	2,239	736	2,943	653	2,290	
65+	4,887	4,202	1,182	4,413	1,667	529	2,233	518	1,715	
85+	497	417	80	541	143	52	238	63	175	
Total*	30,749	22,602	8,147	18,752	15,972	2,780	9,311	1,770	7,541	
TABLE 8 (continued)										
PROJECTED COMPOSITION OF THE POPULATION, 2025										
	Hale County			Lamar County			Pickens County			
Age	Total	White	Nonwhite	Total	White	Nonwhite	Total	White	Nonwhite	
0-4	1,504	421	1,083	930	736	194	1,451	608	843	
5-19	4,579	1,382	3,197	2,942	2,373	569	4,437	1,915	2,522	
15-44	1,600	1,616	4,984	5,818	4,803	1,015	7,735	3,755	3,980	
20-64	11,265	4,278	6,987	8,865	7,393	1,472	11,480	5,936	5,544	
55+	6,676	3,041	3,635	5,510	4,775	735	7,286	4,216	3,070	
60+	5,355	2,470	2,885	4,467	3,913	554	5,878	3,417	2,461	
65+	3,867	1,828	2,039	3,438	3,055	383	4,372	2,605	1,767	
85+	388	211	177	463	424	39	520	324	196	
Total*	21,215	7,909	13,306	16,175	13,557	2,618	21,740	11,064	10,676	
TABLE 8 (continued)										
PROJECTED COMPOSITION OF THE POPULATION, 2025										
	Tuscaloosa County			Region II						
Age	Total	White	Nonwhite	Total	White	Nonwhite				
0-4	11,347	5,388	5,959	18,712	9,130	9,191				
5-19	36,505	18,283	18,222	59,366	30,042	28,034				
15-44	83,598	47,331	36,267	119,529	69,102	52,838				
20-64	112,171	65,627	46,544	176,180	101,083	70,953				
55+	51,335	34,429	16,906	90,907	57,228	30,401				
60+	41,024	28,032	12,992	72,901	46,415	23,702				
65+	30,501	21,244	9,257	53,711	35,119	16,872				
85+	2,943	2,164	779	5,590	3,746	1,498				
Total*	190,524	110,542	79,982	308,466	183,416	125,050				
*Columns do not add due to age groupings.										
SOURCE: Center for Business and Economic Research, University of Alabama										

TABLE 9			
YEARS OF SCHOOL COMPLETED, PERSONS 25 & OLDER, 2000			
AREA	TOTAL PERSONS	% HIGH SCHOOL	% BACHELOR DEGREE
U. S. (000)	175,230	84.1	25.6
Alabama (000)	2,887	75.3	19.0
Bibb County	13,540	63.2	7.1
Fayette County	12,579	66.1	9.2
Greene County	6,204	64.8	10.5
Hale County	10,591	65.2	8.1
Lamar County	10,758	65.1	7.8
Pickens County	13,536	69.7	9.8
Tuscaloosa County	99,039	78.8	24.0
*Region II	166,247	73.5	17.7
SOURCE: U. S. Census, 2000			
*Calculations by West Alabama Regional Commission			



WEST ALABAMA REGIONAL COMMISSION  
HIGHER EDUCATION  
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## Income Levels of Population

Median family income of the District's counties rose at varying rates during the 90's. With the exception of Fayette and Lamar Counties, all counties rose at a higher rate than the Nation and State. All counties still remain below the National median family income and all except Tuscaloosa County are below the State. Fayette and Lamar Counties have been hit especially hard with losses of industrial jobs, mainly in the garment industry. It is expected that these two counties will have a long, slow struggle to reach the levels of the other counties in the District.

Per capita income in the District's counties rose during the 90's. Greene, Hale and Tuscaloosa grew at a faster rate than the Nation and State. Bibb grew at a faster rate than the Nation but just under the State rate. Even with the faster growth rate, all counties' per capita income remains lower than that of the Nation. Tuscaloosa County is the only county with a per capita higher than that of the State. Fayette and Lamar Counties lag in per capita growth and will probably continue to do so for several years unless several large employers are recruited into the area.

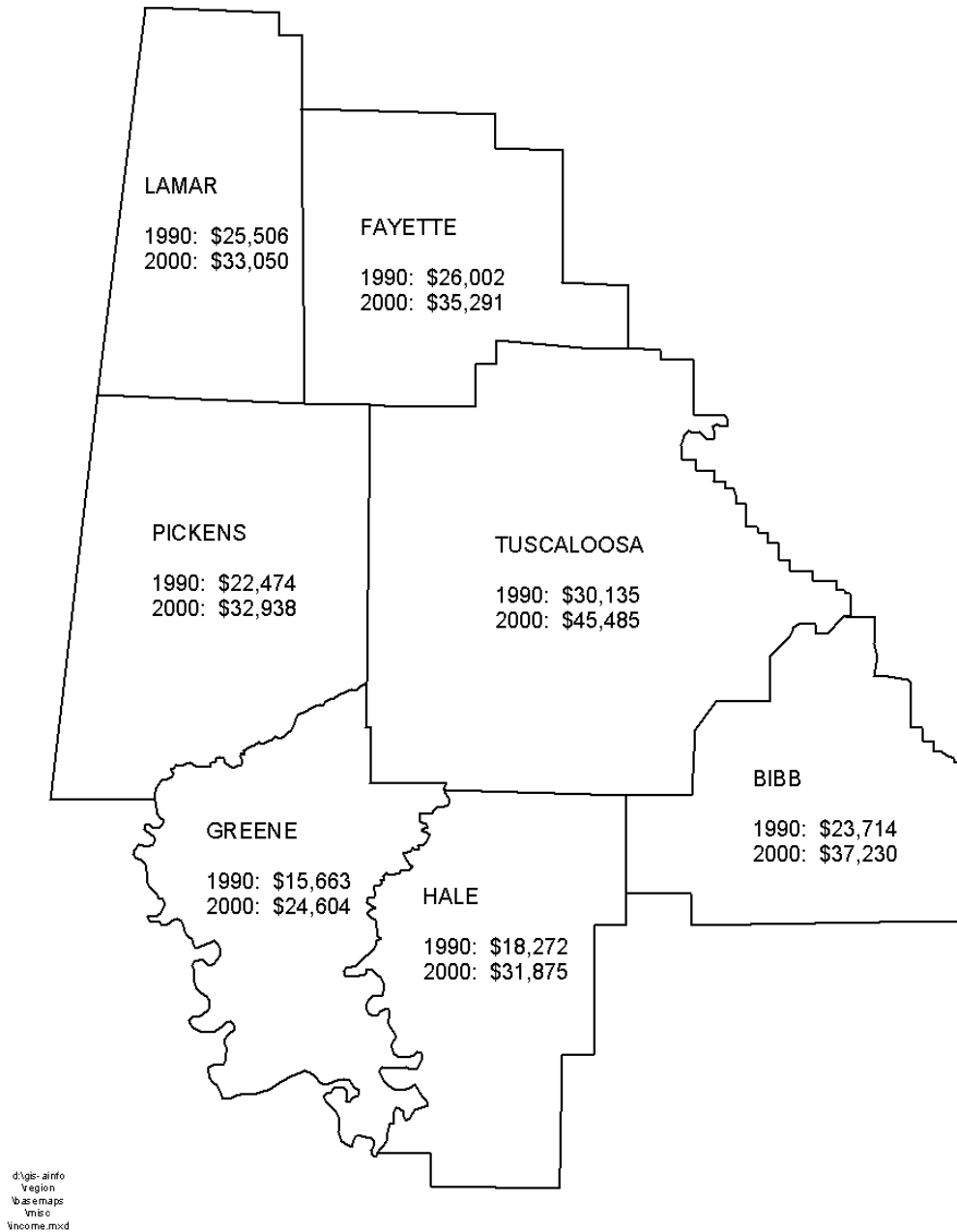
There are approximately 6,700 families in the District with incomes below \$10,000. While this is down from 10,600 in 1990, that number is still too high. The District has over 185 of its residents below the poverty rate. This is only a decrease of 2.1% from 1990. Table 11 shows the distribution of income by county in the District as well as the State and Nation. This table clearly shows that the counties in the District, except for Tuscaloosa are not sharing equally in the economy. The map on page \_\_\_\_ shows the median family income for 1990 and 2000.

**TABLE 10**  
**MEDIAN FAMILY AND PER CAPITA INCOMES**

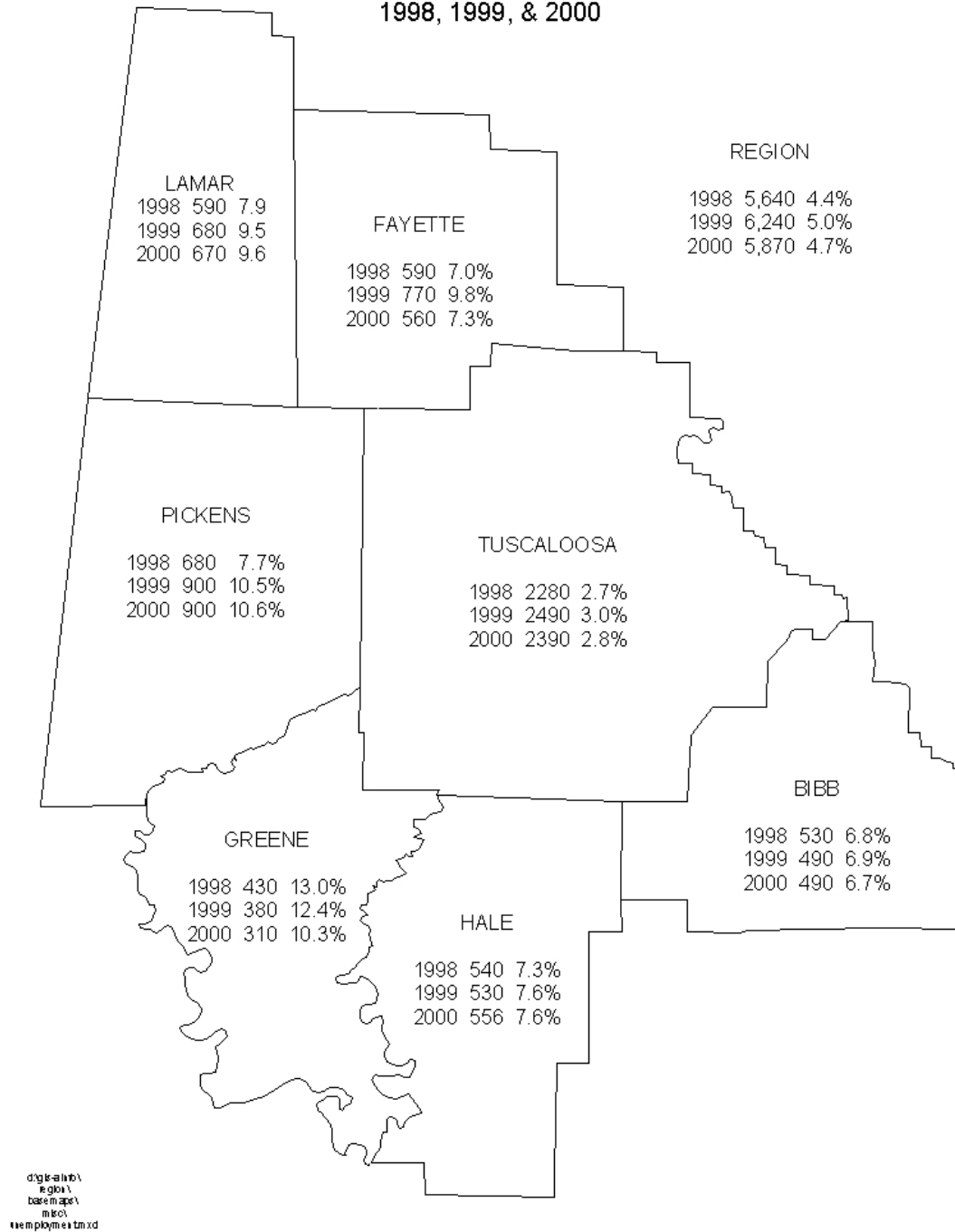
	MEDIAN FAMILY INCOME			PER CAPITA INCOME		
	1989	1999	% CHANGE	1989	1999	% CHANGE
U. S.	\$35,225	\$48,950	39.0%	\$11,687	\$21,181	81.2%
ALABAMA	\$28,686	\$41,657	45.2%	\$9,987	\$18,189	82.1%
Bibb County	\$23,714	\$37,230	57.0%	\$7,756	\$14,105	81.9%
Fayette County	\$26,002	\$35,291	35.7%	\$9,018	\$14,439	60.1%
Greene County	\$15,663	\$24,604	57.1%	\$5,948	\$13,686	130.1%
Hale County	\$18,272	\$31,875	74.4%	\$6,644	\$12,661	90.6%
Lamar County	\$25,506	\$33,050	29.6%	\$9,496	\$14,435	52.0%
Pickens County	\$22,474	\$32,938	46.6%	\$7,859	\$13,746	74.9%
Tuscaloosa County	\$30,135	\$45,485	50.9%	\$9,797	\$18,998	93.9%

SOURCE: U. S. Census, 1990 & 2000  
Calculations by WARC

WEST ALABAMA REGIONAL COMMISSION  
MEDIAN FAMILY INCOME  
1990 AND 2000



WEST ALABAMA PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL  
UNEMPLOYED AND UNEMPLOYMENT RATES  
1998, 1999, & 2000



**TABLE 11**

**DISTRIBUTION OF 1999 INCOME AMONG FAMILIES, 2000 ALL FAMILIES**

	U. S. (000)	Alabama	Region	Bibb County	Fayette County	Greene County	Hale County	Lamar County	Pickens County	Tuscaloosa County
# Families	72,031,000	1,223,185	70,929	5,567	5,345	2,689	4,650	4,707	5,864	42,107
Med. Fam. Income	\$48,950	\$41,657		\$37,230	\$35,291	\$24,604	\$31,875	\$33,050	\$32,938	\$45,485
0 - \$10,000	3,633	103,257	6,678	536	452	532	694	419	807	3,238
\$10,000 - \$14,999	3,278	72,749	4,484	404	397	290	397	418	441	2,137
\$15,000 - 19,999	4,086	78,191	4,623	394	381	294	399	408	470	2,277
\$20,000 - \$24,999	4,222	82,730	5,176	502	448	238	373	419	503	2,693
\$25,000 - \$29,999	4,398	83,346	4,929	372	495	175	342	374	466	2,705
\$30,000 - \$34,999	4,306	83,454	5,075	406	473	169	351	459	377	2,840
\$35,000 - \$39,999	4,055	79,740	4,423	391	398	152	284	312	291	2,595
\$40,000 - \$44,999	3,854	75,348	4,144	402	394	127	233	307	368	2,313
\$45,000 - \$49,999	3,612	67,991	4,010	320	300	101	223	219	346	2,501
\$50,000 - \$59,999	6,736	122,145	7,011	512	478	143	433	430	620	4,395
\$60,000 - \$74,999	8,809	134,421	7,918	546	583	238	427	514	550	5,060
\$75,000 - \$99,999	9,117	120,781	6,858	527	381	122	292	279	349	4,908
\$100,000 - \$124,999	12,282*	53,884	2,615	170	91	37	115	57	147	1,998
\$125,000 - \$149,999		24,158	1,161	36	32	27	49	55	19	943
\$150,000 - \$199,999		19,965	875	22	24	10	16	9	47	747
\$200,000 & Over		21,065	949	27	18	34	22	28	63	757
SOURCE: U. S. 2000 Census, Tables P76 & P77										
Regional Calculations by WARC										
*All over \$100,000 lumped together in 2000 Census										

**TABLE 12**

**DISTRIBUTION OF 1999 INCOME AMONG FAMILIES, 2000 ALL BLACK FAMILIES**

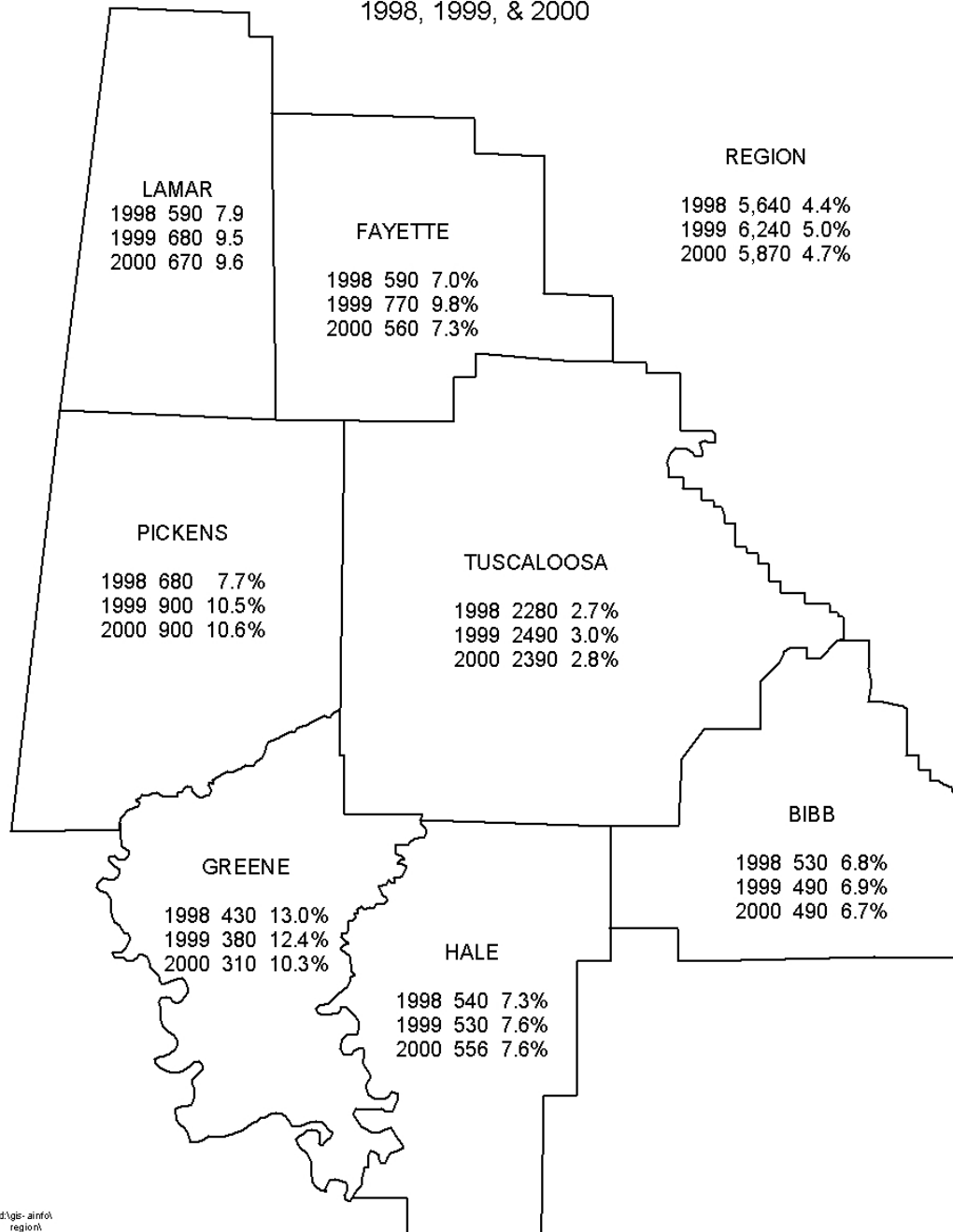
	U. S. (000)	Alabama	District	Bibb County	Fayette County	Greene County	Hale County	Lamar County	Pickens County	Tuscaloosa County
# Families	8,814	288,588	20,641	972	586	2,101	2,491	494	2,288	11,709
0 - \$10,000	1,027	55,279	4,199	279	69	499	604	90	595	2,063
\$10,000 - \$14,999	730	30,964	2,148	80	64	283	293	31	286	1,111
\$15,000 - 19,999	812	28,182	2,027	105	61	245	256	52	235	1,073
\$20,000 - \$24,999	2,891	24,226	1,919	94	58	226	250	89	256	946
\$25,000 - \$29,999	680	21,719	1,723	67	67	152	205	46	179	1,007
\$30,000 - \$34,999	566	19,095	1,494	84	39	113	173	48	136	901
\$35,000 - \$39,999	556	17,239	1,213	52	32	133	151	36	98	711
\$40,000 - \$44,999	486	14,594	859	33	45	102	70	16	117	476
\$45,000 - \$49,999	439	12,510	882	21	22	46	92	14	82	605
\$50,000 - \$59,999	736	21,039	1,382	52	63	88	178	35	95	871
\$60,000 - \$74,999	738	18,992	1,447	49	35	128	81	24	110	1,020
\$75,000 - \$99,999	676	14,152	723	25	19	41	69	12	53	504
\$100,000 - \$124,999	700*	5,321	284	31	3	19	29	0	16	186
\$125,000 - \$149,999		1,914	82	0	5	4	14	0	4	55
\$150,000 - \$199,999		1,531	51	0	4	6	3	0	2	36
\$200,000 & Over		1,831	199	0	0	16	14	1	24	144
SOURCE: U. S. 2000 Census, Tables P154B										
Regional Calculations by WARC										
*All over \$100,000 lumped together in 2000 Census										

<b>TABLE 13</b>									
<b>ESTIMATED CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE, 2002</b>									
	Bibb	Fayette	Greene	Hale	Lamar	Pickens	Tuscaloosa	Region II	
	County	County	County	County	County	County	County	1991	2000
Employed	7,967	7,391	3,109	5,842	6,547	7,644	74,397	105,140	112,897
Manufacturing	1,892	2,270	527	1,481	2,153	2,004	10,884	20,280	21,211
Nonmanufacturing	6,075	5,121	2,582	4,361	4,394	5,640	63,513	84,860	91,686
Unemployed	530	334	469	507	500	685	4,890	7,970	7,915
Labor Force	8,521	8,018	3,578	6,345	7,056	8,335	87,760	113,110	129,613
Source: U. S. Census, 2000, P43 & P49, Alabama Department of Industrial Relations									
Calculations by WARC									



TABLE 14							
EMPLOYMENT STATISTICS							
COUNTY	2001 EMPLOYMENT STATISTICS			ANNUAL UNEMPLOYMENT RATES			
	Labor Force	Employed	Unemployed		2001	2000	1999
Bibb	7,080	6,370	710		10.0%	6.7%	6.9%
Fayette	7,790	7,210	580		7.5%	7.2%	9.8%
Greene	2,970	2,650	320		10.7%	10.3%	12.4%
Hale	7,260	6,550	710		9.7%	7.5%	7.6%
Lamar	7,010	6,270	740		10.5%	9.5%	9.5%
Pickens	8,290	7,340	950		11.4%	10.6%	10.5%
Tuscaloosa	84,320	81,570	2,750		3.3%	2.8%	3.0%
Region II	124,720	117,960	6,760		5.4%	4.7%	5.0%
Alabama	2,147,600	2,033,600	114,400		5.3%	4.6%	4.8%
SOURCE: Alabama Department of Industrial Relations							
Regional calculations by WARC							

WEST ALABAMA REGIONAL COMMISSION  
UNEMPLOYED AND UNEMPLOYMENT RATES  
1998, 1999, & 2000



REGION

1998 5,640 4.4%  
1999 6,240 5.0%  
2000 5,870 4.7%

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misc\l  
unemployment.mxd

TABLE 15								
TOTAL EMPLOYED 16 YEARS OLD AND OVER, BY OCCUPATION IN 2000								
Occupation	AREA							
	Bibb	Fayette	Greene	Hale	Lamar	Pickens	Tuscaloosa	Region*
Total Employed By Occupation	7,967	7,391	3,109	5,842	6,547	7,644	74,397	112,897
Management, Professional & Related	702	512	279	451	489	716	7,379	10,528
Professional & Related	1,058	1,019	368	693	810	1,038	16,444	21,430
Healthcare Support	166	178	153	237	128	259	1,578	2,699
Protective Service	98	97	76	121	39	89	1,373	1,893
Food Preparation & Serving Related	294	155	163	205	219	228	3,102	4,366
Building & Grounds Maintenance & Cleaning	214	267	195	205	187	190	2,492	3,750
Personal Care & Service	179	147	55	134	135	191	1,917	2,758
Sales & Related	546	591	253	521	602	723	8,786	12,022
Office & Administrative Support	1,147	947	414	770	781	1,050	11,400	16,509
Farming, Fishing, & Forestry	196	182	58	133	209	222	304	1,304
Construction & Extraction	732	568	199	392	381	490	4,537	7,299
Installation, Maintenance, & Repair	528	479	96	381	324	454	2,659	4,921
Production	1,214	1,538	506	1,106	1,594	1,275	7,626	14,859
Transportation & Material Moving	893	711	294	493	649	719	4,800	8,559
Source: 2000 Census, Table P50								
*Calculations by WARC								

TABLE 16								
TOTAL EMPLOYED 16 YEARS OLD AND OVER, BY BY MAJOR INDUSTRY GROUPS IN 2000								
Occupation	AREA							
	Bibb	Fayette	Greene	Hale	Lamar	Pickens	Tuscaloosa	Region*
TOTAL EMPLOYED	7,967	7,391	3,109	5,842	6,547	7,644	74,397	112,897
INDUSTRY GROUP								
Agriculture, forestry, fishing & hunting	263	247	200	256	284	455	512	2,217
Mining	184	201	3	22	2	5	1,065	1,482
Construction	719	470	241	494	477	541	5,097	8,039
Manufacturing	1,892	2,270	527	1,481	2,153	2,004	10,884	21,211
Wholesale trade	340	196	122	178	124	260	2,399	3,619
Retail trade	791	884	279	734	700	850	9,992	14,230
Transportation & warehousing and utilities	608	437	188	303	421	449	2,603	5,009
Information	100	40	12	48	50	61	1,341	1,652
Finance, insurance, real estate & rental/leasing	280	251	162	227	283	279	3,348	4,830
Professional, scientific, management, administrative & waste management services	422	215	121	180	239	304	5,175	6,656
Educational services	665	471	330	396	375	650	10,426	13,313
Health care & social assistance	697	880	406	820	731	924	10,030	14,488
Arts, entertainment, recreation, accommodation & food services	338	234	190	198	183	211	5,173	6,527
Other services (except public administration)	370	302	117	260	309	358	3,684	5,400
Public administration	298	293	211	245	216	293	2,668	4,224
Source: 2000 Census, Table P49								
*Calculations by WARC								

## **Analysis and Economic Structures and Activities**

### **A. Industry and Business**

The number of firms producing and processing goods and employing people in the District has grown very slowly. This is the result of several plant closings in all counties with the exception of Tuscaloosa. Table 17 shows the major manufacturing firms in each of the counties and their products. Table 18 shows the recent plant closings by county.

### **B. Petroleum and Natural Gas**

Petroleum and natural gas were first discovered in the District in the early 1900's. Exploration was slow and sporadic until 1970 when the East Detroit Oil Field was discovered. That triggered new activity and concentrated lease play in the Black Warrior Basin. The first oil was produced in Lamar County in 1971. Later in that decade production started in Fayette and Tuscaloosa Counties. Approximately 90% of the production takes place in Lamar County.

Natural gas production began in 1973 in Fayette and Lamar Counties. Production began in Tuscaloosa County in 1980 followed by Pickens County in 1992. Production of these wells is not expected to be released until better market prices are available.

Methane gas has been under production in Tuscaloosa County for about ten years. Extensive exploration has expanded into Bibb and Hale Counties. The methane has been placed in production where pipelines are available.

### **C. Agriculture**

Once the largest employer and principal economic activity of the District, agriculture has experienced a continuous employment decline over the past several decades. Low profit margins, increased capital requirements due to mechanization and the enticement of higher wages available in non-agricultural occupation have prompted many to abandon farming. Still the role of agriculture in the District both now and in the future will remain significant.

#### **Farms, Land and Land Use Patterns**

Table 19 shows the number of farms in each county. In all counties except Lamar and Pickens, the number of farms continued to decrease. Those two counties have slight increases. The total number of farms in the district decreased by 139 and the acreage decreased by 13,000 acres. Tables 20-24 show the major crops and the income from them.

Farming of catfish and crawfish has grown in importance in the District. While the majority of the production is located in Greene and Hale Counties, other counties are experiencing an increased amount of activity in that area. The Economic Census has no listings for these two activities and efforts to obtain information from the State have been unsuccessful. Shrimp has been introduced in Tuscaloosa County and the initial results look promising for that endeavor. Tables 26-28 show income derived

from livestock, poultry and dairying.

#### D. Forestry

The forest lands of the District continue to be very important in the economy. Several of the larger employers as shown in Table 17 are in the forestry related business. The many functions provided by the forest; timber production, wildlife habitat, watershed protection and aesthetics are still being performed, while the demand for these functions are greatly increasing.

Tables that would normally be shown giving various statistics on the forestry industry are not listed at this time since the information needed from the Forestry Service have not been released.

TABLE 17		
MAJOR FIRMS, PRODUCTS & LOCATION		
FIRM	PRODUCT (S)	LOCATION
BIBB COUNTY		
Belcher, Olon Lumber Co.	Treated lumber; Poles; Chips	Brent
Brent Industries, Inc.	Reconditioned work gloves; Printer towels	Brent
Burkes Mechanical, Inc.	Steel fabricating; Steel installation	Brent
Cahaba Timber, Inc.	Sawed lumber	Brieffield
N.D. Cass of Alabama, Inc.	Wood toys	Brent
Freeman - Patrick Wood Products	Sawed lumber	Centreville
Randolph & Randolph Logging	Logging	Centreville
Unified Testing Services, Inc.	Metal testing	Woodstock
FAYETTE COUNTY		
3-M Manufacturing, Inc.	Contract sewing	Glen Allen
Dal-Tile Internation, Inc.	Flooring; Quarry tile	Fayette
Fayette Glove	Latex gloves; Synthetic gloves	Fayette
Georgia Pacific Corportation	Sawed lumber	Belk
Lumber Remanufacturing Services, Inc.	Custom lumber	Belk
North River Apparel, Inc.	Women's blouses; Active wear	Berry
Ox Bodies, Inc.	Truck bodies	Fayette
Pittsburg and Midway Coal	Bituminous coal	Berry
GREENE COUNTY		
Alabama Power Company	Electricity	Demopolis
United Roofing Co., Inc.	Felt.; Shingle weatherproofing	Eutaw
Winchester Carton	Corrugated boxes; Fiber boxes	Eutaw
HALE COUNTY		
Greensboro Apparel, Inc.	Athletic sports clothing	Greensboro
Gulf States Paper Corp.	Yellow pine lumber; Utility poles	Moundville
Southern Pride Catfish Co.	Catfish, whole & fillets	Greensboro
Zildjian Percussion	Drum sticks; Dowels	Moundville
LAMAR COUNTY		
American Non-Wovens	Spunbonded fabric	Vernon
Emerson Electric Co.	Electrical machinery; Electrical equipment	Vernon
Marathon Corp.	Refuse compactors	Vernon
NACCO Mat. Handling Grp.	Drive train for lift trucks; Transmissions	Sulligent
Omni Internation, Inc.	Wood office furniture	Vernon
Patriot Homes-Pinnacle Division	Manufatured homes	Sulligent
Weyerhaeuser Corporation	2" X 4"; Plywood; Treated lumber	Kennedy
PICKENS COUNTY		
Aliceville Casting Company	Ductile Iron Casting	Aliceville
Buchanan Hardwood Flooring, L.L.C.	Hardwood flooring	Aliceville

PICKENS COUNTY		
Buchanan Lumber Co.	Lumber	Aliceville
Lewis Brothers Lumber Co., Inc	Sawed lumber	Aliceville
McShan Lumber Company, Inc	Lumber	McShan
Pate Lumber Co.	Lumber	Carrollton
Peco Farms Hatchery	Chicken feed	Gordo
Peco Farms, Inc	Chicks	Gordo
TUSCALOOSA COUNTY		
Alabama Gas Corporation	Natural gas	Tuscaloosa
Alabama Land and Mineral Corp.	Coal	Abernant
Alabama Power Company	Electricity	Tuscaloosa
Buffalo Rock Co.	Soft drinks	Tuscaloosa
Cahill Co., Inc., J.D.	Laminated and coated paperboard	Tuscaloosa
Campbell & Associates, Inc	Steel tanks (rubber lined)	Tuscaloosa
Carlisle Engineered Products, Inc.	Injection molded auto parts	Tuscaloosa
Carport	Distribution center	Tuscaloosa
Coca Cola Bottling	Soft drink distribution	Tuscaloosa
Coral Industries, Inc.	Shower doors; Tub enclosures	Tuscaloosa
Corus Tuscaloosa	Steel bands, in coil form	Tuscaloosa
Cottondale Wood Products	Pallets	Tuscaloosa
Delphi Harrison Thermal Systems	Air conditioners, auto for GM; Radiators	Tuscaloosa
Delphi Packard Electric Systems	Dashboard systems	Cottondale
Drummond Coal Company	Coal processing	Brookwood
Elk Corporation of Alabama	Residential roofing products	Tuscaloosa
Empire Coke Company	Foundry	Tuscaloosa
Fitts Industries, Inc.	Millwork; Stair parts	Tuscaloosa
Friday Lumber Co., Inc	Wood trusses	Tuscaloosa
Globe Elastic Co., Inc	Elastomeric fiber	Tuscaloosa
Gulf States Paper Corp.	Paper; Wood products	Tuscaloosa
Hanna Steel Corp.	Steel tubing	Northport
Hard Wear Corp.	Hardened overlay for steel; Pins	Northport
Hardin's Bakery, Inc	Bread products	Tuscaloosa
Hunt Refining Co.	Heating oil; Petroleum coke; Kerosene	Tuscaloosa
International Paper Corp.	Lumber	Moundville
Johnson Controls	Seating system; Headliners	Cottondale
JVC Disc America Co.	Compact discs	Tuscaloosa
JVC Magnetics America Co.	Cassette tapes	Tuscaloosa
Knight Sign Industries, Inc.	Signs	Tuscaloosa
Lawter International, Inc.	Hydrocarbons; Synthetic resin	Moundville
M.S. Plastics	Plastic pellets	Tuscaloosa
McAbee Construction, Inc.	Pipe fabrication; Modular assembly	Tuscaloosa
Mercedes-Benz US International	All Activity Vehicles	Tuscaloosa
P.E. LaMoreaux & Associates, Inc		Tuscaloosa
Peco Foods, Inc.	Processing chickens	Tuscaloosa
Phifer Wire Products, Inc.	Aluminum; Fiberglass	Tuscaloosa
Randall Publishing Company	Publisher	Tuscaloosa
S.T. Bunn Construction Co.	Asphalt	Tuscaloosa
Sherman Utility Structures, Inc.	Concrete utility poles	Tuscaloosa
Smith's Machine Shop	Machine shop; Welding	Cottondale
Southeastern Asphalt	Asphalt manufacturer	Tuscaloosa
Southern Heat Exchanger Corp.	Heat exchangers, shell and tube	Tuscaloosa
Southern Resins	Hydrocarbon resins	Moundville



Southern Heat Exchanger Corp.	Heat exchangers, shell and tube	Tuscaloosa
Southern Resins	Hydrocarbon resins	Moundville
Southfield Carton Corp.	Popcorn cartons; Scoops; Tubs; Trays	Tuscaloosa
StressCrete, Inc.	Decorative concrete poles	Northport
Sullivan Lumber Co., W.G.	Sawed lumber	Northport
Synchronous Industrial Services	Warehousing; Packaging; Trucking	Cottondale
Tamko Roofing Products, Inc.	Asphalt	Tuscaloosa
Tool Tech, Inc	Machine shop; Industrial equipment	Tuscaloosa
Trans First Division of VMC	Transformers, except electric	Tuscaloosa
TTL, Inc.		Tuscaloosa
Tuscaloosa News	Newspaper, daily	Tuscaloosa
Tuscaloosa Warehouse Services	Warehouse	Tuscaloosa
Uniroyal Goodrich Tire Co.	Tires	Tuscaloosa
Walter Resources, Inc., Jim	Coal, low & medium volatile metallurgical	Brookwood
WG Sullivan Lumber Company, Inc.	Sawing & planing mill	Northport
ZF Industries	Auto axle systems	Tuscaloosa

Source: "2001 Directory of Mining and Manufacturing Companies in West Alabama," West Alabama Regional Commission

**TABLE 18**

**Recent Plant Closings in West Alabama**

Company	Closed	Employees*	
<b><u>Bibb County</u></b>			
Centreville Lumber Company	11/98	100	
Southern Ductile	4/01	45	
N D Cass	9/01	150	
Belcher Lumber Co.	12/01	40	
Vanity Fair (Health Tex)	9/01	250	
			585
<b><u>Fayette County</u></b>			
Shelby Die Casting, Inc	1/98	200	
Oneita Apparel	9/97	350	
Oneita Textile	3/99	350	
Lanier Clothes	1/99	210	
Fayette Manufacturing	4/02	300	
Arvin Industries, Inc.	/02	500	
			2,490
<b><u>Greene County</u></b>			
Vanco, Inc.	8/98	150	
Kimberly Clark	7/98	5	
			155
<b><u>Hale County</u></b>			
Golden Rod	4/01	170	
			170
<b><u>Lamar County</u></b>			
Glenn's All American Sportswear	4/99	150	
Millport Slacks	5/98	210	
Vernon Manufacturing	4/97	42	
			364
<b><u>Pickens County</u></b>			
Reform Manufacturing Co.	4/99	270	
Q-Glass	3/99	15	
NRV Manufacturing	5/00	170	
Aliceville Cotton Mill	5/00	180	
Rainer Sawmill	/00	5	
			640
<b><u>Tuscaloosa County</u></b>			
<b><u>TOTAL</u></b>		<b>3,904</b>	

\*At the time of closing

**TABLE 19**

Gross Retail Sales by County (\$1,000)

Type of Establishment	Bibb	Fayette	Greene	Hale	Lamar	Pickens	Tuscaloosa	Region*
Automotive	\$7,250	\$24,736	\$7,458	\$2,691	\$10,841	\$21,110	\$383,682	\$457,768
Furniture & home furnishings	\$646	D	D	\$2,080	D	D	\$39,073	D
Electronics & Appliance	D	D	D	D	D		\$25,683	D
Building Materials	\$9,752	\$6,601	D	D	\$4,979	D	\$145,356	D
Food & Beverage	\$20,239	\$19,602	D	D	\$24,426	\$22,223	\$216,198	D
Health & Personal Care	D	D	D	\$4,720	D	D	\$67,353	D
Gasoline	\$14,913	\$20,583	\$8,721	\$8,185	\$13,812	\$46,821	\$144,581	\$257,616
Clothing & Accessories	D	\$2,686	D	D	D	D	\$95,311	D
Sporting Goods, Hobby, Book & Music	D	D	D	D	D	D	\$36,038	D
General Merchandise	\$11,182	\$15,788	D	\$2,750	\$3,635	\$5,266	D	D
All Other, Including D's*	\$13,207	\$21,083	\$15,166	\$32,384	\$7,344	\$36,168	\$389,933	\$1,295,872
Total Sales	\$77,189	\$111,079	\$31,345	\$52,810	\$65,037	\$130,588	\$1,543,208	\$2,011,256

1997 Economic Census, U. S. Bureau of Census

\*Calculations by WARC

D = withheld to avoid disclosing data for individual companies, data are included in broader totals

TABLE 20									
GENERAL FARM INFORMATION									
LOCATION	TOTAL	#FARMS	LAND IN FARMS		VALUE OF LAND & BLDGS		RECEIPTS FROM FARM MARKETING*		
	(Acres)		Ttl. Acres	Avg	Avg. Per Farm	Avg. Per Acre	(x \$1,000)	(x \$1,000)	%
	1997	1997	1997	1997	1997	1997	1992	1997	Change
Bibb	400,000	177	46,903	265	\$312,886	\$1,403	\$2,634	\$2,150	-18.4%
Fayette	401,300	305	62,974	206	\$218,942	\$1,039	\$32,628	\$54,944	68.4%
Greene	407,680	261	123,243	472	\$313,979	\$795	\$8,963	\$11,520	28.5%
Hale	424,320	411	157,743	384	\$368,555	\$947	\$25,695	\$32,222	25.4%
Lamar	387,200	387	71,351	184	\$244,283	\$1,236	\$4,615	\$5,389	16.8%
Pickens	567,700	454	123,132	271	\$308,663	\$1,109	\$49,081	\$60,574	23.4%
Tuscaloosa	857,600	510	99,827	196	\$293,677	\$1,569	\$20,568	\$20,529	-0.2%
* Based on cash receipts from marketing for all farm commodities									
SOURCE: 1997 CENSUS OF AGRICULTURE									
US DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, ECONOMIC AND STATISTICS ADMINISTRATION, BUREAU OF THE CENSUS									

TABLE 21										
WHEAT PRODUCTION										
LOCATION	PLANTED		HARVESTED		YIELD PER ACRE		PRODUCED		RECEIPTS	
	(Acres)		(Acres)		(Bushels)		(Bushels)		(x \$1,000)	
	1998	1999	1998	1999	1998	1999	1998	1999	1998	1999
Bibb	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Fayette	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Greene	1,400	(D)	1,000	(D)	25	(D)	25,000	(D)	69	(D)
Hale	1,500	(D)	1,400	(D)	31	(D)	44,000	(D)	121	(D)
Lamar	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Pickens	2,500	2,500	2,400	1,800	33	31	80,000	55,000	220	130
Tuscaloosa	1,600	1,500	1,400	1,400	45	46	63,000	65,000	173	153
(D)= Counties with less than 500 acres are not published to avoid disclosing individual operations.										
SOURCE: 2000 CENSUS OF AGRICULTURE										

<b>TABLE 22</b>										
<b>CORN PRODUCTION</b>										
LOCATION	PLANTED		HARVESTED		YIELD PER ACRE		PRODUCED		RECEIPTS	
	(Acres)		(Acres)		(Bushels)		(Bushels)		(x \$1,000)	
	1998	1999	1998	1999	1998	1999	1998	1999	1998	1999
Bibb	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Fayette	3,700	2,600	2,800	2,300	54	91	150,000	210,000	317	281
Greene	(D)	1,300	(D)	1,100	(D)	97	(D)	107,000	(D)	143
Hale	2,800	2,500	1,800	2,300	61	121	110,000	278,000	232	372
Lamar	2,600	2,100	2,300	1,600	52	81	120,000	130,000	253	174
Pickens	4,300	2,800	2,100	2,400	27	63	56,000	150,000	118	201
Tuscaloosa	5,000	6,000	4,300	5,700	60	112	260,000	640,000	549	856
(D)= Counties with less than 500 acres are not published to avoid disclosing individual operations.										
SOURCE: 2000 CENSUS OF AGRICULTURE										

<b>TABLE 23</b>										
<b>COTTON PRODUCTION</b>										
LOCATION	PLANTED		HARVESTED		YIELD PER ACRE		PRODUCED		RECEIPTS	
	(Acres)		(Acres)		(Bushels)		(Bushels)		(x \$1,000)	
	1998	1999	1998	1999	1998	1999	1998	1999	1998	1999
Bibb	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Fayette	1,600	2,100	1,600	2,100	642	411	2,140	1,800	762	469
Greene	(D)	1,000	(D)	1,000	(D)	432	(D)	900	(D)	235
Hale	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Lamar	900	1,100	900	1,100	501	436	940	1,000	335	261
Pickens	1,900	2,000	1,900	2,000	556	408	2,200	1,700	783	443
Tuscaloosa	4,500	5,300	4,500	5,300	641	525	6,010	5,800	2,139	1,512
(D)= Withheld to avoid disclosing data for individual companies; data are included in broader kind-of-business totals										
SOURCE: 2000 CENSUS OF AGRICULTURE										

TABLE 24										
SOYBEAN PRODUCTION										
LOCATION	PLANTED		HARVESTED		YIELD PER ACRE		PRODUCED		RECEIPTS	
	(Acres)		(Acres)		(Bushels)		(Bushels)		(x \$1,000)	
	1998	1999	1998	1999	1998	1999	1998	1999	1998	1999
Bibb	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Fayette	2,500	2,300	2,400	2,000	23	19	56,000	38,000	343	243
Greene	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Hale	7,500	5,500	7,300	5,000	23	19	165,000	97,000	1,012	620
Lamar	2,900	(D)	2,800	(D)	26	(D)	74,000	(D)	454	(D)
Pickens	6,200	(D)	6,000	(D)	22	(D)	132,000	(D)	809	(D)
Tuscaloosa	2,600	(D)	2,500	(D)	24	(D)	60,000	(D)	368	(D)
(D)= Withheld to avoid disclosing data for individual companies; data are included in broader kind-of-business totals										
SOURCE: 2000 CENSUS OF AGRICULTURE										

TABLE 25									
LIVESTOCK PRODUCTION AND INCOME									
	CATTLE / CALF		RECEIPTS			HOG / PIG		RECEIPTS	
LOCATION	INVENTORY		FROM CATTLE			INVENTORY		HOGS / PIGS	
			(x \$1,000)					(x\$1,000)	
	1998	1999	1998	1999		1998	1999	1998	1999
Bibb	8,500	8,000	2,005	2,271		(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Fayette	9,500	10,000	2,506	2839		(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Greene	15,500	15,500	3,885	4,542		(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Hale	26,000	28,000	7,017	7,665		(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Lamar	10,000	10,500	2,632	2,981		(D)	700	(D)	120
Pickens	18,000	17,000	4,261	4,968		23,000	26,000	3233	4,453
Tuscaloosa	14,000	14,000	3,509	3,691		(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
(D)= Withheld to avoid disclosing data for individual companies; data are included in broader kind-of-business									
SOURCE: 2000 CENSUS OF AGRICULTURE									

TABLE 26									
POULTRY PRODUCTIONS									
			RECEIPTS					RECEIPTS	
LOCATION	BROILERS		FROM BROILERS			EGGS		FROM EGGS	
	(x1,000)		(x\$1,000)			(x1,000,000)		(x\$1,000)	
	1998	1999	1998	1999		1998	1999	1998	1999
Bibb	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)		140.8	152.1	(D)	(D)
Fayette	1,049	1,157	2,056	2,242		(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Greene	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)		(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Hale	765	914	1,499	1,771		(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Lamar	1,442	1,530	2,826	2,965		(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Pickens	28,695	34,293	56,242	66,460		56.6	74.2	4,861	8,533
Tuscaloosa	6,191	7,398	12,134	14,337		(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
(D)= Withheld to avoid disclosing data for individual companies; data are included in broader kind-of-business									
SOURCE: 2000 CENSUS OF AGRICULTURE									



TABLE 27						
MILK PRODUCTION						
LOCATION	NUMBER OF MILK COWS		MILK PRODUCTION		RECEIPTS FROM MILK	
			(x1,000 pounds)		(x\$1,000)	
	1998	1999	1998	1999	1992	1997
Bibb	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Fayette	1,100	1,000	11,200	12,500	1,829	2,046
Greene	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Hale	900	800	10,200	10,300	1,666	1,686
Lamar	600	600	8,700	7,800	1,421	1,277
Pickens	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Tuscaloosa	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
(D)= Withheld to avoid disclosing data for individual companies; data are included in broader kind-of-b						
SOURCE: 2000 CENSUS OF AGRICULTURE						

#### E. Recreation and Tourism

Recreation and tourism provide a considerable amount of revenue in the District. The University of Alabama's sports program brings in a majority of these funds. Stillman College and Shelton State Junior College have programs that attract lesser crowds. Other major sources of revenue are: the recreation facilities of the various areas hosting softball tournaments; Tannehill State park; Mound State Monument; Lake Lurleen State Park; and, other lesser attractions across the District.

Each county has its own local and regional attractions, such as festivals, historic homes/buildings, and other events. All the individual attractions throughout the District are too numerous to list. However, they are important in that particular county and may increase in regional importance as they grow.

The District's natural setting provides excellent recreational opportunities in hunting and fishing. Sportsmen in the District hunt deer, fox, squirrel, rabbit, quail, dove and other game on both public and private land, lakes, ponds and rivers in the District. The Corps of Engineers provides public access areas on the Black Warrior and Tombigbee Rivers. Other public areas include Payne Lake, Lake Lurleen, Lake Tuscaloosa, Bibb county Lake, Fayette County Lake and the Lamar County Lake. In addition, the Corps operates its largest campground in the State at Pickensville in Pickens County on the Tombigbee River.

The District's staff started a tourism council, the Historic West Alabama Tourism Council, that promotes tourism throughout the District. The Tourism Council meets at different locations in the District and publishes a quarterly newsletter. Attractions in the District are promoted in the newsletter at no cost to the local area/owners. The newsletter is mailed to all the tour operators nationally for whom addresses have been obtained. Several articles have been reprinted by national publications. The Tourism Council now meets on a regular basis with tourism promoters from the adjoining areas of Mississippi.

### **Analysis of Community Facilities and Services**

#### A. Education and Training

Each county operates a public school system. In addition, the City of Tuscaloosa operates a city system. There are also several private schools in the District. All the public systems operate grades K-12. The private schools vary from school to school, but in all counties, grades K-12 are available through the private schools. All county systems operate technical or vocational schools.

All public school systems are all operated by elected Boards of Education. (The City of Tuscaloosa System is had its first election, August, 2001). Some of the superintendents in the county systems are elected. The private schools are run by boards appointed by the organization responsible for the school and the board hires the principal/head master of the school.

In addition to the public systems, the University of Alabama and Stillman College are located in Tuscaloosa. Together they offer a full range of degrees. There are

also two junior colleges in the District, Beville State Community College in Fayette and Shelton State Community College in Tuscaloosa. Shelton State also operates a technical division with training in various vocations. Both senior and junior colleges offer various classes at night. There are several private technical/career schools in the Tuscaloosa Urban area.

#### B. Health

Hospitals, clinics and emergency facilities are located in all counties except Lamar. That county does not have a hospital. One of the State's leading medical centers is Tuscaloosa where there are facilities for treating most major illnesses. Serving West Alabama from Tuscaloosa are two major hospitals, a VA medical Center, The University of Alabama Psychology Center and Speech and Hearing Center, West Alabama Rehabilitation Center, Bryce State Hospital, Partlow State School and Hospital, and the University of Alabama Family Practice Center. The map on page 57 shows the location of the major medical centers in the District.

#### C. Welfare

The Department of Human Resources operates offices in all seven counties. The services rendered by the Department include: aiding public assistance applicants and recipients in furnishing agencies with the necessary information to establish eligibility; administer the food stamp program; administer the financial aid program - supplementary payments to SSI recipients or non-receivers of SSI, the aged, blind, and the totally and permanently disabled; aid to dependent children; and, provide social services and make referral to agencies.

Alabama has an approved child welfare plan for preventing and dealing with serious problems of children who may or may not, be in financial need. Whether they are in their own homes, children who need care and protection are the responsibility of the Department of Human Resources.

The Department investigates and licenses boarding homes to care for children and also helps with arrangements for children who need institutional care. Persons who wish to adopt children apply to the County Departments, which work with the State Department in making adoption placements, and also investigates adoption petitions filed in Probate Courts.

Services to delinquent children are the joint responsibility of juvenile courts and the county departments.

#### D. Community Service Programs

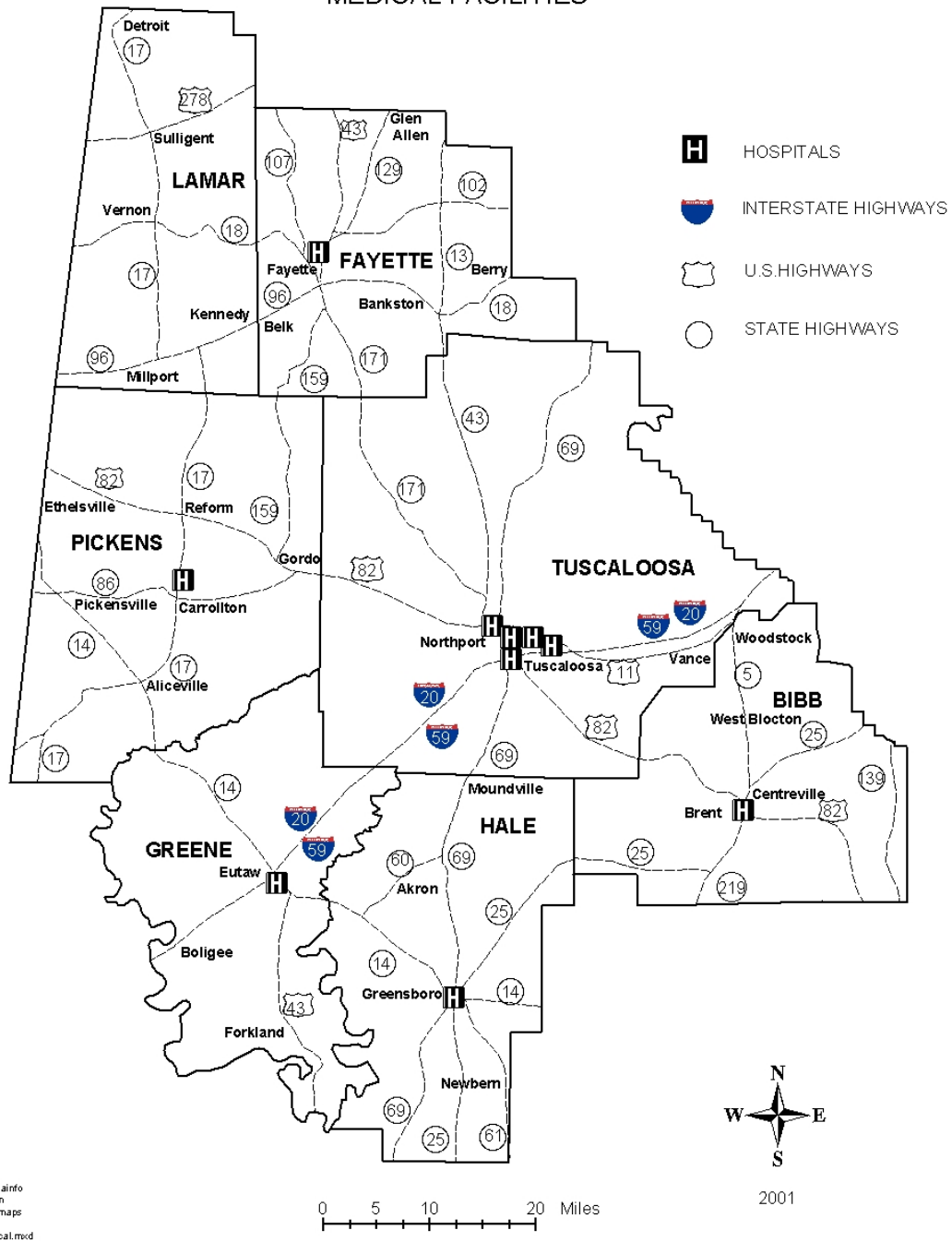
Community Service Programs replaced the Community Action Agencies and deliver the services provided by the CAAs. The objectives of the CSPs are: to identify and define the causes and extent of poverty in the area; to coordinate and focus all available resources and community facilities to eliminate the causes and results of poverty; and, to carry out programs designed to attain these objectives.

Some of the services provided are

1. Transportation for the elderly: Provides transportation for persons 60 years or older who have no means of transportation. Provides supportive services such as shopping assistance and transportation for medical assistance.

2. Low-Income Home Energy Assistance: Provides assistance to eligible households in meeting the rising cost of home energy on a one time basis only.

# WEST ALABAMA REGIONAL COMMISSION MEDICAL FACILITIES



3. USDA Food Distribution: Distributes commodities that are made available by the U. S. Department of Agriculture to households that meet all eligibility requirements.

4. Department of Energy Weatherization Program: Assists low-income home owners stop infiltration of outside temperatures by providing insulation, weather-stripping, storm windows, caulking, underpinning, installing vents and repairing windows.

5. Emergency Food & Shelter Program: Provides funds for existing food banks for distribution to the needy on a limited basis and provides supplies for mass shelter.

6. Minor House Repair for the Elderly: Furnishes limited assistance for persons 60 or above, for material to repair porches, steps, make minor roof repairs, and build ramps for the handicapped.

7. Garden Project: Provides garden supplies to assist low-income families to have an adequate food supply and good nutrition.

8. Emergency Crisis Intervention: Assists a limited number of families as the need arises in emergencies such as fire, floods and storms by purchasing food, clothing and household items.

#### E. Employment Offices

The Alabama Department of Industrial Relations Employment Offices in the counties provides job seekers with the latest information on job openings and employment opportunities in the county, area, State and District. They also provide statistical information on the number of people employed by various categories as well as numbers of unemployed.

#### F. County Extension Service

The Extension Service is an educational agency (arm of Auburn University), designed to meet the needs of the people through the giving of instructions and practical demonstrations in agriculture, home economics, 4-H and Community Resources Development. The main objective in Cooperative Extension is "the development of people themselves to the end that they, through their own initiative may effectively identify and solve the various problems directly affecting their welfare." Extension programs are designed to help families acquire the knowledge, the experience and the understanding, that will enable them to adjust to an ever-changing social and economical condition of the world. The focus is on the development of the individual and his potential, and the opportunity to strengthen family living through the meeting of the problems faced by families as they work to improve the quality of their life at home and in the community. Offices are in all counties.

#### G. Natural Resource Conservation Service (formerly Soil Conservation Service)

The Natural Resource Conservation Service, a USDA agency, works through an in cooperation with the County Natural Resource Conservation Districts in assisting individual land owners as well as groups of land owners in planning for the proper use of

their lands and establishing treatment according to its needs for continued production. NRCS can assist land owners and farmers in developing water disposal systems for drainage, seeding, management of pasture lands, farm pond layouts, as well as woodland conservation and management practices. The primary aim is soil and water conservation is to focus the efforts of all individuals and groups toward using soil and water resources efficiently and conserving them so that their usefulness will be retained for future generations.

#### H. Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service

The ASCS, a USDA agency, assists farmers in carrying out recommended soil and water conservation practices, reforestation, and in regulating acreage and prices of selected crops.

#### I. USDA Rural Development

The USDA Rural Development, a USDA agency, serves farmers and other rural residents with credit and needed technical help on farm and money management problems. Loans are made only to applicants unable to obtain adequate credit from private lenders at reasonable rates and terms. USDA RD programs strengthen family farms and rural communities and reduce rural poverty. Types of loans and assistance available include: farm ownership and operating loans, soil and water conservation loans, housing loans, loan guarantees, and community facility grant and loans for water, sewer and other community facilities.

#### J. Transportation

1. Highways: The District is served by numerous State and Federal highways. I 20/59 serves Greene and Tuscaloosa Counties. Other U. S. Highways include U. S. 11, 43, 80, 82, and 278. Major State Routes are 5, 6, 13, 14, 17, 25, 69, 96, 129, 159 and 171. In all categories, there are over 6,700 miles of roads in the District.

2. Air: Airports with lighted runways are located in each of the District's seven counties. These are part of the State's 121 facility system. There is no scheduled commercial service available in the District. The airport in Birmingham, AL offers service.

3. Water: The Black Warrior River provides Greene, Hale and Tuscaloosa Counties with a navigable waterway and connects with the Tennessee-Tombigbee Waterway in Demopolis, just south of the District. The Tombigbee River (part of the Tennessee-Tombigbee Waterway) serves Greene and Pickens Counties. These two rivers provide the District with a navigable waterway from the Port of Mobile to the mid-west.

Public port facilities are available at Aliceville, Boligee and Pickensville. There are also a few private facilities along both rivers.

4. Rail: The District is served by the Burlington-Northern, Norfolk Southern and Kansas City Southern Rail Roads. Piggy back service is available in the District. Passenger service is available in Tuscaloosa.

5. Truck: The District is served by several truck lines. One or more operate terminals in each county. United Parcel Service and Federal Express operate terminals in Tuscaloosa.

6. Bus: Greyhound Bus Lines operates in all the counties in the district except Fayette. Several leasing companies operate from Millport in Lamar County and the Tuscaloosa Urban area in Tuscaloosa County.

#### K. Communications

1. Telephone: The District is served by Moundville, South Central Bell, GTE and Frontier companies.

2. Television: There is one local television station, located in Tuscaloosa, in the District. Cable systems are in all counties and provide service from all networks as well as several "super stations" and pay-for-view channels.

3. Radio: There are one or more local radio stations in every county with the exception of Hale. Other stations from Columbus and Meridian, MS and Birmingham are receivable with outside antennas.

4. Newspapers: One daily newspaper, "The Tuscaloosa News" is published in the District. There are also ten weekly papers published in the district. Several daily papers from across the country are also circulated in the District.

#### L. Utilities:

1. Electricity: Alabama Power and Black Warrior Electric Membership Corporation provide the District with electricity. The District has reliable service due to the interconnections of Alabama Power with surrounding states which are served by sister companies of the parent company, Southern Company. All counties in the District have adequate power for residential and industrial growth. Rates are controlled by the Alabama Public Service Commission.

2. Gas: The District is served by Southern Natural Gas, Alabama Gas and a few local gas boards. Some of the local producing gas wells are used to supply the area. Most municipalities are served by a natural gas system. Only the smaller ones are not served. There is sufficient supply in the District to provide for additional residential and industrial growth.

3. Water and Sewer. All municipalities are served by water and most of the unincorporated areas are served by either municipal or rural systems. There are still several areas not served by water. Sewer systems are located in all the larger municipalities. Most of these systems can handle additional growth. Because of the costs, several of the smaller municipalities, cannot construct systems and will therefore not be able to handle any substantial growth, especially in areas that will not accommodate septic tanks. Some of the smaller towns are going together with systems. Millport and Kennedy in Lamar County, and Brent and Centreville in Bibb County are examples. Vance in Tuscaloosa County is negotiating with Woodstock in Bibb and Tuscaloosa Counties to provide treatment. Lake View in Tuscaloosa County is



negotiating with a private provider in Jefferson County to provide service. Tables 29 and 30 show the water and waste water systems and their capacities. The map on page 66 shows the coverage area of water and sewer systems and the designated industrial parks in the District.

4. Solid Waste: All counties have solid waste collection programs and operate inert landfills. Some of the collection is contracted with private corporations. Tuscaloosa County is the only county in the District operating a solid waste landfill.

#### M. Senior Centers:

The Area Agency on Aging, a program of West Alabama Regional Council, operates senior centers and nutrition sites in all the counties. Meals are provided at all sites five days each week for persons 60 years or older. Supportive services such as, nutrition education, health and welfare counseling, consumer education, information and referral, shopping assistance and recreation are also offered at the sites. Homebound meals are provided for individuals who are unable to prepare meals for themselves. Homemaker services are provided on a limited basis to homebound participants. Other services are available as requested and as funding is available.

TABLE 28			
WASTEWATER TREATMENT FACILITIES 2001			
COUNTY	TREATMENT FACILITY	CAPACITY GALLONS / DAY	CURRENT LEVEL OF USE GALLONS / DAY
Bibb	Brent-Centreville	1,600,000	730,000
Fayette	Berry	150,000	90,000
	Fayette	3,000,000	1,100,000
	Guin (1)	0	0
Greene	Eutaw	880,000	570,000
Hale	Greensboro	1,425,000	800,000
	Moundville	210,000	125,000
	Akron	N.A.	N.A.
Lamar	Detroit Housing Authority		
	Kennedy	220,000	180,000
	Millport	210,000	18,000
	Sulligent		
	Vernon		
Pickens	Aliceville	400,000	351,000
	Carrollton	110,000	100,000
	Gordo	271,000	130,000
	Reform	500,000	450,000
Tuscaloosa	Northport	3,000,000	2,800,000
	Hillard N Fletcher	24,000,000	18,000,000
	Vance	500,000	
	TOTALS	36,476,000	25,444,000

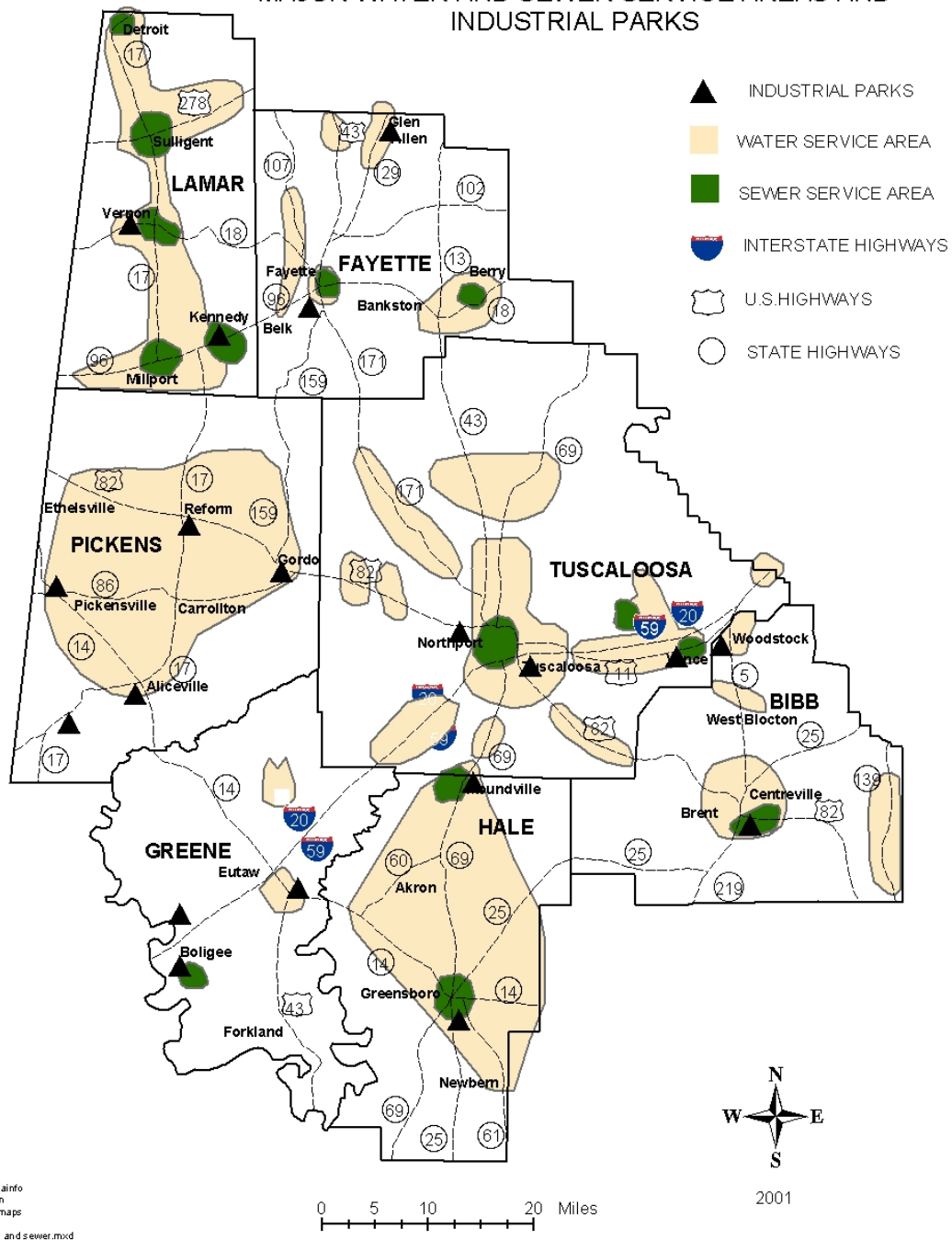
N.A.: Not Available

<b>TABLE 29</b>			
<b>WATER TREATMENT FACILITIES AND USAGE 2001</b>			
<b>COUNTY</b>	<b>SYSTEM</b>	<b>TREATMENT CAPACITY</b>	<b>AVERAGE USE / DAY</b>
Bibb	Bibb County	350,000	275,000
	Brent	1,200,000	900,000
	Centreville	1,229,000	895,000
	Green Pond	471,000	275,800
	Harrisburg	95,000	65,000
	Randolph	70,000	49,000
	West Blocton	325,000	225,000
	Sub-Total	3,740,000	2,684,800
Fayette	Belk	160,000	100,000
	Berry	500,000	350,000
	Fayette	1,450,000	1,150,000
	Glen Allen	150,000	100,000
	Guin	750,000	650,000
	Oakman		20,100
	Winfield	1,166,566	600,000
	Sub-Total	4,176,566	2,970,100
Greene	Clinton-Mt. Hebron	50,000	35,000
	Eutaw	592,000	367,000
	Forkland	120,000	100,000
	Fosters-Ranlph	506,950	429,800
	Greene	50,000	30,000
	Greene	100,000	88,000
	Sub-Total	1,418,950	1,049,800
Hale	Greensboro	3,300,000	2,300,000
	Hale	800,000	700,000
	Moundville	964,000	621,000
	Sub-Total	5,064,000	3,621,000
Lamar	Kennedy	220,000	180,000
	Lamar	491,000	400,000
	Millport	250,000	125,000
	Sulligent	825,000	630,000
	Vernon	1,250,000	900,000
	Sub-Total	3,036,000	2,235,000

Pickens	Alliceville	972,297	800,000
	Carrollton	270,000	133,000
	Ethelsville	88,000	69,395
	Gordo	950,000	650,000
	Pickens	2,230,000	1,174,594
	Reform	400,000	242,454
	Sub-Total	4,910,297	3,069,443
Tuscaloosa	Buhl, Elrod & Holman	150,000	120,000
	Carroll's Creek	718,548	563,056
	Citizens	1,000,000	800,000
	Coaling	325,000	296,000
	Coker	400,000	295,000
	Englewood-Hulls	480,000	300,000
	Foster-Ralph	506,950	429,800
	Mitchell	880,000	820,000
	Northport	3,992,000	2,980,000
	Peterson	170,000	133,000
	Sand Springs	230,000	200,000
	Tuscaloosa	31,800,000	25,000,000
	Warrior River	1,600,000	800,000
	Sub-Total	42,252,498	32,736,856
	GRAND TOTALS	64,598,311	48,366,999

1. Bibb County purchases treated water from Brent, Centreville & West Blocton
2. Harrisburg purchases treated water from Brent
3. Randolph purchases treated water from Bibb County
4. West Blocton has the capacity to increase its treatment by 1,000,000 gallons / day
5. Belk purchases treated water from Fayette and Covin-Mt. Vernon
6. Covin-Mt. Vernon purchases treated water from Fayette
7. Glen Allen purchases treated water from Winfield
8. Berry's source can provide 2,000,000 gallons / day
9. Greene County purchases treated water from Eutaw and Forkland
10. Hale County purchases treated water from Greensboro and Moundville
11. Greensboro's source will provide 4,680,000 gallons / day
12. Moundville's source will provide 1,440,000 gallons / day
13. Kennedy purchases treated water from Lamar County
14. Lamar County purchases treated water from Beaverton, Detroit, Sulligent & Vernon
15. Millport purchases treated water from Lamar County
16. Lamar County is investigating the possibility of constructing a reservoir for additional source
17. Carrollton purchases treated water from Pickens County
18. Ethelsville purchases treated water from Pickens County
19. Pickens County purchases treated water from Gordo, Reform & Lowness County, MS
20. Buhl-Elrod & Holman purchases treated water from Coker
21. Carroll's Creek purchases treated water from Tuscaloosa
22. Citizens' purchases treated water from Coaling & Tuscaloosa
23. Coaling purchases treated water from Tuscaloosa
24. Coker purchases treated water from Fosters-Ralph, Northport & Tuscaloosa
25. Englewood-Hulls purchases treated water from Tuscaloosa
26. Fosters-Ralph purchases treated water from Tuscaloosa
27. Mitchell purchases treated water from Tuscaloosa
28. Northport can purchase treated water from Tuscaloosa
29. Peterson purchases treated water from Tuscaloosa
30. Roupes Valley obtains treated water from various sources outside the District
31. Sand Springs purchases treated water from Northport & Tuscaloosa

# WEST ALABAMA REGIONAL COMMISSION MAJOR WATER AND SEWER SERVICE AREAS AND INDUSTRIAL PARKS



## **CHAPTER FIVE**

### **POTENTIALS FOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

#### **Industry and Business**

Prospects for increasing and expanding industry and business during the next few years are very good in some counties and not so good in others. The announced expansion of Mercedes with 2,000 additional employees will mean expansion of existing and other suppliers. The spin-offs from this expansion should overflow into Tuscaloosa and Bibb Counties. While the industrial employment in Tuscaloosa County has continued to grow, other counties have experienced losses. Textile plants have either closed or announced closings in Fayette, Sulligent, Vernon, Millport, Reform, Carrollton, Aliceville, and Centreville. Other plant closings have occurred in Fayette, Greensboro and Brent. Arvin, a muffler manufacturer in Fayette, is anticipating closing in 2002 or cutting the workforce back from 390 to 50. The occasional new locations of businesses or industries have not been able to offset the closings that have occurred.

Coal mining, once a major employer in the District, is now only a minor force in the employment market. Overseas coal has undercut the prices at which local coal can be produced. International prices will have to increase or technology will have to improve in order for coal to have the same impact it did 5-10 years ago.

During the 90's, exploration for natural gas, including methane, was very prevalent in Tuscaloosa, Bibb, and Hale counties. Many wells were drilled and capped. A major portion of these wells were drilled to take advantage of tax breaks. As prices increase and other sources become depleted, those capped wells will come into operation. This resource is an attractive asset to the District in recruiting new industry.

Investments by companies expanding or locating in the District greatly affect the growth of the District. Many new and expanding companies are in the Tuscaloosa County and northern Bibb County area. The economy of this area is more diverse than that of the other areas of the District. In order to continue to grow, and for those areas not growing or losing job opportunities, the communities must identify and publicize their unique and positive attributes. Among those items which most reflect a positive approach are a host of activities which can be classified as support activities. These include education, health services, housing, water supply and quality, sewage disposal capacity, fire protection, utility systems, land-use planning and zoning, identification of industrial sites and transportation systems to tie all the elements together. While housing is considered as one of the necessary supportive services to provide for industrial growth, it also represents potential job provision as an industry in itself. The strengthening of all these services and an active program to develop and attract industry offer the major potentials for further economic development in District II.

#### **Agriculture and Forestry**

Prospects for increasing incomes and expanding agricultural production remain good during the next several years. There are thousands of acres available in all counties that could be developed into cropland if the economy were such that a profit could be expected. Also the development of catfish ponds, crawfish ponds, shiitake mushroom growing, angora goats, rabbits,

emu, and other new products that are being introduced in the area are all possible sources of income for the farmers. The catfish industry is well established, especially in Greene and Hale Counties. Expansion is occurring in other counties. The recent construction and opening of a new processing plant in Greene County will assure the continued strong growth of the catfish industry. Crawfish is grown mainly in Greene and Hale Counties at this time. No gains are expected in the agricultural sector in the near future.

Forest resources offer good potential for increasing incomes and to a lesser extent for increasing jobs. As the demand and prices for timber increase, landowners will have more incentive to spend money to carry out improved forestry management practices, thereby increasing job opportunities as well as the supply of timber.

Increases in the forestry related fields recently are mainly in the areas of chip and bark mills. Also two hardwood flooring companies have located in the District. One in Aliceville (Pickens County) is operating and one is under construction in Berry (Fayette County). A cedar saw mill and exporting concern has located in Boligee (Greene County) and is now in the process of expanding. Jobs in agri-business and related industries that process these products are increasing, and will continue to increase as the industry increases.

### Industrial Sites

There are many industrial sites available in the District, either in parks or stand alone sites. In Bibb County, the Bibb County Industrial Development Board owns a small park in the northern end of the county. Fayette County and the City of Fayette own a 350 acre park in the western section of Fayette. In Greene County, the Greene County Industrial Development Authority owns the Cross Roads of America Industrial Park and the Greene County Industrial Park in the City of Eutaw. In Lamar County, the City of Vernon owns a park on the western side of the city. The Pickens County Industrial Development Authority owns a building and lot northwest of Reform. The City of Aliceville owns the Beville-Hook Port and a 100 acre industrial park. The Town of Pickensville's Industrial Board owns the Pickensville Industrial Park. In Tuscaloosa County, the Tuscaloosa County Industrial Development Authority, owns two parks, the Airport Industrial Park and Cedar Cove Park.

The Bibb County Industrial Park is located on State Route 5, just south of U. S. Highway 11 and approximately two miles from I 20/59. The site has rail and water. Efforts are underway by the authority and the Town of Woodstock to provide sewer service.

The Fayette industrial park has all utilities in place. The site is located on State Route 96 and is served by rail.

The 2,000 acre Cross Roads of America Park in Greene County is located on the Tombigbee River and is adjacent to I 20/59. The site has water, sewer and rail service. The Greene County Industrial Development Authority recently decided to build a speculative building in the park. The Greene County Industrial Park in Eutaw has 40 acres remaining available for development. All utilities and rail service are in place.

In Hale County, there is no publicly owned land for industrial development.

The City of Vernon has recently acquired an industrial park west of the city off County Road 9. This site has all utilities available.

Aliceville's industrial park is located on State Route 17 near the airport. This 100 acre site has rail service and all utilities in place. The Bevill-Hook Port, five miles south of Aliceville on State Route 17 and the Tombigbee River, is a 523 acre site with an inland dock and turn-around basin.

The Pickensville Industrial Park is located on the Tombigbee River at State Route 86. The site has water, electricity and rail service on site as well as barge loading facilities.

The Tuscaloosa Airport Industrial Park is located adjacent to the Tuscaloosa Municipal Airport and U. S. 82. The park has 750 acres available with all utilities and rail service in place. The Cedar Cove Park is located between U. S. 11 and I 20/59 approximately two miles west of the Mercedes site. This site has all utilities in place.

Several other potential sites have been identified as potential industrial sites but have not yet been placed in public control.

The West Alabama Regional Commission assists the members in the District by updating Community Data Reports, available building and site listings with the Economic Development Partnership and the Alabama Development Office. Information provided to this web-site is available immediately. The Commission's staff also assists members in applications for funding to extend utility/access roads to industries.



## CHAPTER SIX

### DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY

The committee developed goals for the District several years ago to be used as a guide in the development process. The basic goals remain the same. Under each goal each county may have several specific objectives. However, the committee felt that the site specific objective in the District should not be listed as local conditions might change with little or no notice and the objective would no longer be valid. Goals are established to cover all areas, not just those that might be eligible for funding from the Economic Development Administration.

- Goal 1:** Water - Provide potable water to all the citizens of the District. Approximately 85% of the citizens in the District are served by a public water system. Some of the systems are approaching their maximum capacity in providing for customers and additional capacity is needed in treatment, source or storage. Several systems have undersized lines and lines that need replacing due to the age of the lines or growth in the area. Each water system should attempt to provide water in sufficient quantities to provide for present and future residential and commercial/industrial uses.
- Goal 2:** Sewer - Provide sanitary sewer to as many of the District's citizens as possible. Only those areas that are heavily populated can afford to provide sanitary sewer. Lack of sewer will prevent commercial/industrial development, especially in those areas where septic tanks fail. Systems should strive to provide enough capacity to provide for present and future demands/needs.
- Goal 3:** Transportation - Provide a safe transportation system for the residents and businesses of the District.
- Goal 4:** Education - Provide the residents with a quality academic and vocation education system
- Goal 5:** Recreation - Provide the District with adequate recreation/cultural facilities.
- Goal 6:** Housing - Provide all segments of the population with safe, decent, sanitary and affordable housing.
- Goal 7:** Health - Provide quality health care for the District's residents.
- Goal 8:** Historical/Cultural Facilities - Preserve the significant historic and cultural facilities in the District.
- Goal 9:** Government - Continue to develop the cooperation between the governments in promoting the entire District.
- Goal 10:** Tourism - Promote and develop tourism in the District to the fullest extent possible, preferably through a joint effort such as the Historic West Alabama Tourism Council.

**Goal 11:** Industrial Development - Promote industrial development in the District, using the Economic Development Partnership of Alabama, Alabama Development Office, West Alabama Regional Commission and local Chambers of Commerce and Industrial Boards.

**Goal 12:** Public Safety - Provide a safe environment for the District by Providing adequate police and fire protection.

These goals are intended to be broad enough that any government can put a priority project for its local use in one or more category.

# **CHAPTER SEVEN**

## **COMMITTEE WORK PLAN**

### **BIBB COUNTY**

#### **POTABLE WATER GOAL**

To provide adequate potable water to the citizens of the county in sufficient quantity and quality to meet the residential and commercial needs of the present and future.

##### **Strategies**

- ◆ Study consolidation of water systems in the county
- ◆ Develop new sources in the county
- ◆ Extend service in areas not served

#### **SANITARY SEWER GOAL**

To provide sanitary sewer to as many residents and businesses as practical.

##### **Strategies**

- ◆ Support construction of new systems in areas as appropriate
- ◆ Expand capacity of Brent/Centreville system

#### **TRANSPORTATION GOAL**

To provide an adequate and safe transportation system for the county.

##### **Strategies**

- ◆ Four lane U. S. 82
- ◆ Four lane AL 5
- ◆ Upgrade County road system
- ◆ Investigate possible rural transit system

#### **EDUCATION GOAL**

To provide residents with a quality academic and vocation education system.

##### **Strategies**

- ◆ Support construction of new
- ◆ schools and additions as needed
- ◆ Develop leadership training programs for youth and adults
- ◆ Provide vocation training as needed by existing industry

#### **RECREATION/CULTURE GOAL**

To provide residents with adequate recreational/cultural facilities.

#### Strategies

- ◆ Construct senior center in Brent/Centreville area
- ◆ Construct a youth facility
- ◆ Construct a civic center
- ◆ Promote tourism in county
- ◆ Expand recreational facilities in the county

### HOUSING GOAL

To provide all segments of the population with safe, decent, sanitary and affordable housing.

#### Strategies

- ◆ Promote public housing in the county
- ◆ Encourage private developers to construct more affordable housing

### HEALTH CARE GOAL

To provide quality health care for the residents.

#### Strategies

- ◆ Secure additional doctors/dentists for the county
- ◆ Expand medical facilities

### HISTORIC GOAL

To preserve the significant historic and cultural facilities in the county.

#### Strategies

- ◆ Promote and expand facilities at Tannehill and Brierfield Parks
- ◆ Promote restoration of historic buildings

### TOURISM GOAL

To develop tourism in the county to the fullest extent possible.

#### Strategies

- ◆ Utilize Historic West Alabama Tourism Council and the State Bureau of Tourism to promote the county
- ◆ Continue and promote the Twister Day, Cahaba Lilly Festival and Wild West Day
- ◆ Study other events to attract tourist to the county

### ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT GOAL

To promote economic/industrial development in the county.

#### Strategies

- ◆ Develop infrastructure at the Bibb County Industrial Park
- ◆ Utilize all agencies possible to promote development in the county

- ◆ Promote commercial development as possible

### PUBLIC SAFETY GOAL

To provide a safe environment for the county's residents.

#### Strategies

- ◆ Construct a new jail
- ◆ Improve equipment of fire departments
- ◆ Recruit additional personnel for fire departments
- ◆ Install fire hydrants for fire protection in rural areas
- ◆ Provide adequate equipment for police departments

## FAYETTE COUNTY

### POTABLE WATER GOAL

To provide adequate potable water to the citizens of the county in sufficient quantity and quality to meet the residential and commercial needs of the present and future.

#### Strategies

- ◆ Develop reservoir on the North River as a source for the county
- ◆ Expand service in the un-served areas

### SANITARY SEWER GOAL

To provide sanitary sewer to as many residents and businesses as practical.

#### Strategies

- ◆ Construct systems in areas not served as warranted
- ◆ Expand capacity and service areas in Berry and Fayette

### TRANSPORTATION GOAL

To provide an adequate and safe transportation system for the county.

#### Strategies

- ◆ Construct north-south corridor from Muscle Shoals to Mobile
- ◆ Improve AL 171 from Fayette to Tuscaloosa
- ◆ Upgrade the county road system
- ◆ Upgrade AL 18 and 96 throughout the county
- ◆ Investigate possible rural transit service

### EDUCATION GOAL

To provide residents with a quality academic and vocation education system.

#### Strategies

- ◆ Develop leadership training programs for youth and adults

- ◆ Promote development of facilities and programs

### RECREATION/CULTURE GOAL

To provide residents with adequate recreational/cultural facilities.

#### Strategies

- ◆ Construct community center in Belk
- ◆ Expand recreation facilities in Belk
- ◆ Promote tourism in the county
- ◆ Expand facilities in the Berry Park
- ◆ Develop a park in the Glen Allen area

### HOUSING GOAL

To provide all segments of the population with safe, decent, sanitary and affordable housing.

#### Strategies

- ◆ Promote public housing in the county
- ◆ Encourage private developers to construct more affordable housing

### HEALTH CARE GOAL

To provide quality health care for the residents.

#### Strategies

- ◆ Secure additional doctors/dentists for the county

### HISTORIC GOAL

To preserve the significant historic and cultural facilities in the county.

#### Strategies

- ◆ Promote and expand the art museum in Fayette
- ◆ Promote restoration of historic buildings

### TOURISM GOAL

To develop tourism in the county to the fullest extent possible.

#### Strategies

- ◆ Utilize the Alabama Bureau of Tourism, the Historic West Alabama Tourism Council and the Chamber of Commerce to promote tourism in the county
- ◆ Promote festivals held in the county

### ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT GOAL

To promote economic/industrial development in the county.

#### Strategies

- ◆ Utilize ADO, EDAA, West Central Partnership of Alabama, West Alabama Planning and Development Council and local development boards and chambers to promote development in the county
- ◆ Promote commercial development as possible
- ◆ Develop infrastructure to the Fayette Industrial Park
- ◆ Establish available industrial sites

### **PUBLIC SAFETY GOAL**

To provide a safe environment for the county's residents.

#### Strategies

- ◆ Improve equipment of the volunteer fire departments
- ◆ Develop larger base of personnel for fire departments
- ◆ Provide adequate equipment for police departments
- ◆ Install fire hydrants for fire protection in rural areas

## **GREENE COUNTY**

### **POTABLE WATER GOAL**

To provide adequate potable water to the citizens of the county in sufficient quantity and quality to meet the residential and commercial needs of the present and future.

#### Strategies

- ◆ Extend service to un-served areas
- ◆ Upgrade all lines to 6" minimum

### **SANITARY SEWER GOAL**

To provide sanitary sewer to as many residents and businesses as practical.

#### Strategies

- ◆ Construct a system if Forkland and Union
- ◆ Expand service area of the Eutaw system
- ◆ Renovate the system in the Greenetrack area

### **TRANSPORTATION GOAL**

To provide an adequate and safe transportation system for the county.

#### Strategies

- ◆ Four lane U. S. 43 throughout the county
- ◆ Upgrade the county road and bridge system

### **EDUCATION GOAL**

To provide residents with a quality academic and vocation education system.

#### Strategies

- ◆ Develop leadership training programs for youth and adults
- ◆ Support construction/renovation of facilities throughout the county

### RECREATION/CULTURE GOAL

To provide residents with adequate recreational/cultural facilities.

#### Strategies

- ◆ Renovate the Eutaw Recreation Center
- ◆ Renovate the Montgomery Recreation Center
- ◆ Renovate the Eutaw Park including the swimming pool
- ◆ Renovate/expand parks in Forkland, Union and Boligee

### HOUSING GOAL

To provide all segments of the population with safe, decent, sanitary and affordable housing.

#### Strategies

- ◆ Promote public housing in the county
- ◆ Encourage private developers to construct more affordable housing

### HEALTH CARE GOAL

To provide quality health care for the residents.

#### Strategies

- ◆ Secure additional doctors/dentists for the county
- ◆ Expand medical facilities

### HISTORIC GOAL

To preserve the significant historic and cultural facilities in the county.

#### Strategies

- ◆ Renovate Court House Square
- ◆ Promote restoration of historic buildings and homes

### TOURISM GOAL

To develop tourism in the county to the fullest extent possible.

#### Strategies

- ◆ Promote tourism in the county utilizing the Alabama Bureau of Tourism, Historic West Alabama Tourism Council and the local chamber of commerce
- ◆ Promote local festivals



## ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT GOAL

To promote economic/industrial development in the county.

### Strategies

- ◆ Develop infrastructure to the Cross Roads of America Industrial Park
- ◆ Utilize the ADP, EDAA, West Alabama Planning and Development Council, the Greene County Industrial Development Authority and the local chamber to promote the county
- ◆ Develop and publicize other sites

## PUBLIC SAFETY GOAL

To provide a safe environment for the county's residents.

### Strategies

- ◆ Construct a new county jail
- ◆ Improve equipment of volunteer fire departments
- ◆ Develop a larger base of personnel for the fire departments
- ◆ Purchase a new fire truck for Union Fire department
- ◆ Establish police department in Union
- ◆ Install fire hydrants for fire protection in rural areas
- ◆ Provide adequate equipment for police departments

## **HALE COUNTY**

## POTABLE WATER GOAL

To provide adequate potable water to the citizens of the county in sufficient quantity and quality to meet the residential and commercial needs of the present and future.

### Strategies

- ◆ Upgrade undersized water lines
- ◆ Expand service in the un-served areas

## SANITARY SEWER GOAL

To provide sanitary sewer to as many residents and businesses as practical.

### Strategies

- ◆ Construct a system in Newbern
- ◆ Expand service areas of the Greensboro and Moundville systems

## TRANSPORTATION GOAL

To provide an adequate and safe transportation system for the county.

### Strategies

- ◆ Improve AL 69 to four lanes through the county

- ◆ Improve all county roads and bridges to meet minimum State standards
- ◆ Pave all dirt roads in the county

### EDUCATION GOAL

To provide residents with a quality academic and vocation education system.

#### Strategies

- ◆ Develop leadership training programs for adults
- ◆ Develop adult basic education classes
- ◆ Maintain leadership training classes for the youth of the county

### RECREATION/CULTURE GOAL

To provide residents with adequate recreational facilities.

#### Strategies

- ◆ Develop downtown park in Moundville
- ◆ Renovate and expand recreational facilities in Greensboro and Akron
- ◆ Develop a park in the Newbern area

### HOUSING GOAL

To provide all segments of the population with safe, decent, sanitary and affordable housing.

#### Strategies

- ◆ Promote public housing in the county
- ◆ Encourage private developers to construct more affordable housing

### HEALTH CARE GOAL

To provide quality health care for the residents.

#### Strategies

- ◆ Secure additional doctors/dentists for the county
- ◆ Expand medical facilities
- ◆ Promote/protect the Hale County Hospital

### HISTORIC GOAL

To preserve the significant historic and cultural facilities in the county.

#### Strategies

- ◆ Promote and expand the Catfish Festival in Greensboro
- ◆ Promote restoration of historic buildings

### TOURISM GOAL

To develop tourism in the county to the fullest extent possible.

#### Strategies

- ◆ Utilize Historic West Alabama Tourism Council and the Alabama Bureau of Tourism in promoting the county

### ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT GOAL

To promote economic/industrial development in the county.

#### Strategies

- ◆ Obtain property for industrial prospects
- ◆ Promote vacant industrial/commercial buildings
- ◆ Utilize ADO, EDAA, West Alabama Planning and Development Council and the Hale County Industrial Development Authority, local development boards and chamber to promote the county
- ◆ Promote commercial development as possible

### PUBLIC SAFETY GOAL

To provide a safe environment for the county's residents.

#### Strategies

- ◆ Provide adequate equipment for fire and police departments
- ◆ Develop larger base of personnel for volunteer fire departments
- ◆ Install fire hydrants in rural areas for fire protection

## **LAMAR COUNTY**

### POTABLE WATER GOAL

To provide adequate potable water to the citizens of the county in sufficient quantity and quality to meet the residential and commercial needs of the present and future.

#### Strategies

- ◆ Construct a reservoir on Yellow Creek as a source for the county's water systems
- ◆ Extend service to un-served areas
- ◆ Upgrade line sizes throughout the county

### SANITARY SEWER GOAL

To provide sanitary sewer to as many residents and businesses as practical.

#### Strategies

- ◆ Construct systems in Beaverton and Detroit
- ◆ Expand service area in Kennedy
- ◆ Expand service area in Millport
- ◆ Upgrade older portion of Vernon's system

## TRANSPORTATION GOAL

To provide an adequate and safe transportation system for the county.

### Strategies

- ◆ Construct north-south corridor along western side of the State
- ◆ Upgrade county road and bridge systems to meet minimum State standards
- ◆ Upgrade AL 17, 18 and 96 throughout the county
- ◆ Upgrade the county airport

## EDUCATION GOAL

To provide residents with a quality academic and vocation education system.

### Strategies

- ◆ Develop leadership training programs for youth and adults
- ◆ Support construction/expansion/renovation of school facilities as appropriate

## RECREATION/CULTURE GOAL

To provide residents with adequate recreational/cultural facilities.

### Strategies

- ◆ Construct a senior center in Millport
- ◆ Expand recreational facilities in Millport and Kennedy
- ◆ Construct a youth facility
- ◆ Construct a civic center
- ◆ Promote tourism in the county

## HOUSING GOAL

To provide all segments of the population with safe, decent, sanitary and affordable housing.

### Strategies

- ◆ Promote public housing in the county
- ◆ Encourage private developers to construct more affordable housing

## HEALTH CARE GOAL

To provide quality health care for the residents.

### Strategies

- ◆ Secure additional doctors/dentists for the county
- ◆ Expand medical facilities

## HISTORIC GOAL

To preserve the significant historic and cultural facilities in the county.

#### Strategies

- ◆ Promote and expand Back Street Opry
- ◆ Promote restoration of historic buildings

### **TOURISM GOAL**

To develop tourism in the county to the fullest extent possible.

#### Strategies

- ◆ Utilize Historic West Alabama Tourism Council, Alabama Bureau of Tourism and local chambers to assist in promoting the county
- ◆ Promote local festivals

### **ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT GOAL**

To promote economic/industrial development in the county.

#### Strategies

- ◆ Utilize ADO, EDAA, West Central Partnership of Alabama, West Alabama Planning and Development Council and local development boards and chambers to promote development in the county
- ◆ Develop infrastructure to the Vernon Industrial Park
- ◆ List vacant industrial/commercial buildings with ADP/EDAA
- ◆ Promote commercial development as possible
- ◆ Obtain land for future development

### **PUBLIC SAFETY GOAL**

To provide a safe environment for the county's residents.

#### Strategies

- ◆ Install fire hydrants for fire protection in the rural areas
- ◆ Provide adequate equipment/training for fire departments
- ◆ Develop a larger base of personnel for fire departments
- ◆ Provide adequate equipment/training for police departments
- ◆ Clean channelize Buttahatchee River and Beaver Creek to prevent flooding
- ◆ Upgrade railroad crossings

## **PICKENS COUNTY**

### **POTABLE WATER GOAL**

To provide adequate potable water to the citizens of the county in sufficient quantity and quality to meet the residential and commercial needs of the present and future.

#### Strategies

- ◆ Upgrade the Ethelsville system
- ◆ Expand service in the un-served areas

- ◆ Expand capacity in the Aliceville system
- ◆ Upgrade line sizes throughout the county

### SANITARY SEWER GOAL

To provide sanitary sewer to as many residents and businesses as practical.

#### Strategies

- ◆ Construct a system in Pickensville
- ◆ Expand capacity of Aliceville system
- ◆ Expand service areas of the Aliceville, Carrollton, Gordo and Reform systems
- ◆ Upgrade Reform system
- ◆ establish a system for Ethelsville/Macedonia area

### TRANSPORTATION GOAL

To provide an adequate and safe transportation system for the county.

#### Strategies

- ◆ Construct north-south corridor from Muscle Shoals to Mobile
- ◆ Four lane U. S. 82 through the county
- ◆ Upgrade the county road and bridge systems to meet minimum State standards
- ◆ Upgrade AL 14, 17 and 86 throughout the county

### EDUCATION GOAL

To provide residents with a quality academic and vocation education system.

#### Strategies

- ◆ Develop leadership training for youth and adults
- ◆ Construct two new schools

### RECREATION/CULTURE GOAL

To provide residents with adequate recreational/cultural facilities.

#### Strategies

- ◆ Renovate/expand Carrollton park
- ◆ Renovate/expand park facilities in reform
- ◆ Expand park facilities in Aliceville

### HOUSING GOAL

To provide all segments of the population with safe, decent, sanitary and affordable housing.

#### Strategies

- ◆ Promote public housing in the county
- ◆ Encourage private developers to construct more affordable housing

## HEALTH CARE GOAL

To provide quality health care for the residents.

### Strategies

- ◆ Secure additional doctors/dentists for the county
- ◆ Expand medical facilities

## HISTORIC GOAL

To preserve the significant historic and cultural facilities in the county.

### Strategies

- ◆ Continue efforts to renovate the County Court House
- ◆ Continue restoration of historic building such as the Stage Coach Inn

## TOURISM GOAL

To develop tourism in the county to the fullest extent possible.

### Strategies

- ◆ Promote museum in Aliceville
- ◆ Utilize Historic West Alabama Tourism Council, Alabama Bureau of Tourism and local chambers to promote the county
- ◆ Promote local festivals

## ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT GOAL

To promote economic/industrial development in the county.

### Strategies

- ◆ List available industrial/commercial buildings with ADP/EDAA
- ◆ Utilize ADO, EDAA, West Central Partnership of Alabama, West Alabama Planning and Development Council and local development boards to promote development in the county
- ◆ Promote commercial development as possible
- ◆ Obtain control of land for future development

## PUBLIC SAFETY GOAL

To provide a safe environment for the county's residents.

### Strategies

- ◆ Construct fire house in Gordo
- ◆ Provide adequate equipment/training for fire and police departments
- ◆ Develop a fire department in Memphis
- ◆ Install fire hydrants in rural areas for fire protection
- ◆ Purchase/install adequate signage for E-911 system
- ◆ Develop larger base of personnel for fire departments

## **TUSCALOOSA COUNTY**

### **POTABLE WATER GOAL**

To provide adequate potable water to the citizens of the county in sufficient quantity and quality to meet the residential and commercial needs of the present and future.

#### **Strategies**

- ◆ Extend Service to un-served areas
- ◆ Explore possibility of consolidating rural water systems
- ◆ Upgrade older lines in existing systems to minimum of 6"

### **SANITARY SEWER GOAL**

To provide sanitary sewer to as many residents and businesses as practical.

#### **Strategies**

- ◆ Establish systems in Coaling, Coker and Lake View
- ◆ Expand existing sewer systems to built-up areas
- ◆ Explore possible systems for less built-up areas

### **TRANSPORTATION GOAL**

To provide an adequate and safe transportation system for the county.

#### **Strategies**

- ◆ Extend Warner Parkway (River Road) to I 20/59
- ◆ Complete Warrior Loop
- ◆ Upgrade the county road and bridge systems to meet minimum State standards
- ◆ Develop county-wide transportation (transit) system
- ◆ Four lane U. S. 82 from Mississippi to Montgomery
- ◆ Four lane U. S. 43 and AL 69 from U. S. 82 to northern Urban Area Boundary
- ◆ Improve AL 171 from U. S. 43 to Fayette
- ◆ Complete items listed in the Tuscaloosa Urban Area TIP
- ◆ Establish passenger air service at the Tuscaloosa Municipal Airport
- ◆ Complete Intelligent Transportation system
- ◆ Establish public parking facility in downtown Tuscaloosa

### **EDUCATION GOAL**

To provide residents with a quality academic and vocation education system.

#### **Strategies**

- ◆ Construct new schools in Brookwood and Lake View areas
- ◆ Develop leadership training programs for youth
- ◆ Construct additions/new schools to eliminate the need for portable classrooms
- ◆ Continue/expand Leadership Tuscaloosa classes
- ◆ Establish library branches in Brookwood, Lake View, Coaling and Coker



## RECREATION/CULTURE GOAL

To provide residents with adequate recreational/cultural facilities.

### Strategies

- ◆ Expand park facilities at Coaling
- ◆ Establish park at Lake View
- ◆ Continue to develop park facilities in areas as appropriate

## HOUSING GOAL

To provide all segments of the population with safe, decent, sanitary and affordable housing.

### Strategies

- ◆ Promote public housing in the county
- ◆ Encourage private developers to construct more affordable housing

## HEALTH CARE GOAL

To provide quality health care for the residents.

### Strategies

- ◆ Establish clinics in outlying areas of the county
- ◆ Re-establish service in the Brookwood clinic

## HISTORIC GOAL

To preserve the significant historic and cultural facilities in the county.

### Strategies

- ◆ Continue activities of groups such as the Tuscaloosa County Heritage Commission, Theater Tuscaloosa, Convention and Visitors Bureau

## TOURISM GOAL

To develop tourism in the county to the fullest extent possible.

### Strategies

- ◆ Utilize Alabama Bureau of Tourism, Historic West Alabama Tourism Council, Convention and Visitors Bureau and chamber to promote the county
- ◆ Promote local festivals/events such as Kentuck, West Alabama State Fair, City Fest, etc.

## ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT GOAL

To promote economic/industrial development in the county.

### Strategies

- ◆ Continue activities of Tuscaloosa County IDA

- ◆ Promote commercial development as possible
- ◆ Utilize ADO, EDAA to promote available land/buildings

### PUBLIC SAFETY GOAL

To provide a safe environment for the county's residents.

#### Strategies

- ◆ Install fire hydrants in rural areas for fire protection
- ◆ Provide adequate equipment/training for fire and police departments
- ◆ Explore need for police departments in Coaling, Coker and Lake View
- ◆

TABLE 28			
WASTEWATER TREATMENT FACILITIES 2001			
COUNTY	TREATMENT FACILITY	CAPACITY GALLONS / DAY	CURRENT LEVEL OF USE GALLONS / DAY
Bibb	Brent-Centreville	1,600,000	730,000
Fayette	Berry	150,000	90,000
	Fayette	3,000,000	1,100,000
	Guin (1)	0	0
Greene	Eutaw	880,000	570,000
Hale	Greensboro	1,425,000	800,000
	Moundville	210,000	125,000
	Akron	N.A.	N.A.
Lamar	Detroit Housing Authority		
	Kennedy	220,000	180,000
	Millport	210,000	18,000
	Sulligent		
	Vernon		
Pickens	Aliceville	400,000	351,000
	Carrollton	110,000	100,000
	Gordo	271,000	130,000
	Reform	500,000	450,000
Tuscaloosa	Northport	3,000,000	2,800,000
	Hillard N Fletcher	24,000,000	18,000,000
	Vance	500,000	
	TOTALS	36,476,000	25,444,000

N.A.: Not Available

<b>TABLE 29</b>			
<b>WATER TREATMENT FACILITIES AND USAGE 2001</b>			
<b>COUNTY</b>	<b>SYSTEM</b>	<b>TREATMENT CAPACITY</b>	<b>AVERAGE USE / DAY</b>
Bibb	Bibb County	350,000	275,000
	Brent	1,200,000	900,000
	Centreville	1,229,000	895,000
	Green Pond	471,000	275,800
	Harrisburg	95,000	65,000
	Randolph	70,000	49,000
	West Blocton	325,000	225,000
	Sub-Total	3,740,000	2,684,800
Fayette	Belk	160,000	100,000
	Berry	500,000	350,000
	Fayette	1,450,000	1,150,000
	Glen Allen	150,000	100,000
	Guin	750,000	650,000
	Oakman		20,100
	Winfield	1,166,566	600,000
	Sub-Total	4,176,566	2,970,100
Greene	Clinton-Mt. Hebron	50,000	35,000
	Eutaw	592,000	367,000
	Forkland	120,000	100,000
	Fosters-Ranlph	506,950	429,800
	Greene	50,000	30,000
	Greene	100,000	88,000
	Sub-Total	1,418,950	1,049,800
Hale	Greensboro	3,300,000	2,300,000
	Hale	800,000	700,000
	Moundville	964,000	621,000
	Sub-Total	5,064,000	3,621,000
Lamar	Kennedy	220,000	180,000
	Lamar	491,000	400,000
	Millport	250,000	125,000
	Sulligent	825,000	630,000
	Vernon	1,250,000	900,000
	Sub-Total	3,036,000	2,235,000

Pickens	Alliceville	972,297	800,000
	Carrollton	270,000	133,000
	Ethelsville	88,000	69,395
	Gordo	950,000	650,000
	Pickens	2,230,000	1,174,594
	Reform	400,000	242,454
	Sub-Total	4,910,297	3,069,443
Tuscaloosa	Buhl, Elrod & Holman	150,000	120,000
	Carroll's Creek	718,548	563,056
	Citizens	1,000,000	800,000
	Coaling	325,000	296,000
	Coker	400,000	295,000
	Englewood-Hulls	480,000	300,000
	Foster-Ralph	506,950	429,800
	Mitchell	880,000	820,000
	Northport	3,992,000	2,980,000
	Peterson	170,000	133,000
	Sand Springs	230,000	200,000
	Tuscaloosa	31,800,000	25,000,000
	Warrior River	1,600,000	800,000
	Sub-Total	42,252,498	32,736,856
	GRAND TOTALS	64,598,311	48,366,999

1. Bibb County purchases treated water from Brent, Centreville & West Blocton
2. Harrisburg purchases treated water from Brent
3. Randolph purchases treated water from Bibb County
4. West Blocton has the capacity to increase its treatment by 1,000,000 gallons / day
5. Belk purchases treated water from Fayette and Covin-Mt. Vernon
6. Covin-Mt. Vernon purchases treated water from Fayette
7. Glen Allen purchases treated water from Winfield
8. Berry's source can provide 2,000,000 gallons / day
9. Greene County purchases treated water from Eutaw and Forkland
10. Hale County purchases treated water from Greensboro and Moundville
11. Greensboro's source will provide 4,680,000 gallons / day
12. Moundville's source will provide 1,440,000 gallons / day
13. Kennedy purchases treated water from Lamar County
14. Lamar County purchases treated water from Beaverton, Detroit, Sulligent & Vernon
15. Millport purchases treated water from Lamar County
16. Lamar County is investigating the possibility of constructing a reservoir for additional source
17. Carrollton purchases treated water from Pickens County
18. Ethelsville purchases treated water from Pickens County
19. Pickens County purchases treated water from Gordo, Reform & Lowness County, MS
20. Buhl-Elrod & Holman purchases treated water from Coker
21. Carroll's Creek purchases treated water from Tuscaloosa
22. Citizens' purchases treated water from Coaling & Tuscaloosa
23. Coaling purchases treated water from Tuscaloosa
24. Coker purchases treated water from Fosters-Ralph, Northport & Tuscaloosa
25. Englewood-Hulls purchases treated water from Tuscaloosa
26. Fosters-Ralph purchases treated water from Tuscaloosa
27. Mitchell purchases treated water from Tuscaloosa
28. Northport can purchase treated water from Tuscaloosa
29. Peterson purchases treated water from Tuscaloosa
30. Roupes Valley obtains treated water from various sources outside the District
31. Sand Springs purchases treated water from Northport & Tuscaloosa